

# THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 78, Vol. III.

Saturday, June 25, 1864.

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[On Thursday next.]

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Affairs between a Constitutional Lawyer and a Country Gentleman about to enter Public Life. By GEORGE ATKINSON, B.A., Oxon, Sergeant-at-Law, Author of "The House of Lords compared with the House of Commons," &c. Post 8vo. [On July 6.]

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## THE READER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1864.

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### BEOWULF REDIVIVUS.

IF it were our plan always to seek out a bit of reading that would go well with the current events that are most strongly exciting us, we should all at the present moment be rubbing up our *Beowulf*. Rubbing up our what? Well, everybody, in these busy times, can't be expected to be up in literary archaeology; and so a word or two about *Beowulf* may not come amiss.

The oldest specimens of that literature which we now call the Anglo-Saxon, and consequently the oldest literary relics in which the English can claim a kind of national property, are two or three poems which do not seem to have been composed within our islands at all, but rather to be part of that "song-stuff" which the Angles and Saxons brought with them into our islands from their original Continental region. By far the longest, and by far the most important, of these pieces is *Beowulf*. It is, indeed, beyond all comparison, the finest and most stirring bit of poetry in the Anglo-Saxon tongue—with more of genius in it than anything that the Anglo-Saxons produced during the subsequent period of their possession of England. It consists, in Mr. Kemble's edition, of about 6400 short lines; which, by the more judicious mode of printing in lines of double length, would be reduced to about 3200. Mr. Conybeare divides the whole into 43 short pieces or cantos. The present form of the poem is not older than the ninth century; but it is believed to be a somewhat Christianized version, then reduced to manuscript, of an original composition of the fifth or sixth century which had come down by oral repetition among the Angles and Saxons, though they had deemed it right to purge it of its Pagan allusions. It is a heroic poem, the scenes of

which are chiefly in Denmark. It was once supposed that the characters of the poem were real persons of Anglie and Danish history; but, though some of the names are those of Danish and Saxon tradition, the story itself is evidently a legend of marvels. The following is its tenor:—

The dominions of Hrothgar, the good and veteran king of one of the tribes or nations of the Danes, are haunted by a horrible dragon or monster called the Grendel, which comes nightly to the king's palace, and, when he and his thanes are sleeping after the mead-feast, levies his contribution of victims to be gorged on the spot or carried away to his abode among the fens and sea-caverns. No skill or courage has availed Hrothgar against this monster, the terror of which keeps all the land sad. At last Beowulf the Geat, a chief or thane of the Scyldings in another part of the peninsula, of which one Higelac, his kinsman, is king, hears of this Grendel and his doings, and sets sail with a chosen band of warriors to offer his services to Hrothgar against the local pest. The voyage, the arrival off the Danish coast, the alarm of the coast-warden on seeing their approach, his subsequent satisfaction on learning who they are, the welcome given by Hrothgar and his thanes to Beowulf, their feast, and Beowulf's narration of his past exploits to prove, against one sneering thane, his fitness for this new enterprise against the Grendel, are all described. Then comes night, and the sleep of the wearied mead-drenched thanes, and, as usual, the stealthy approach of the loathly Grendel. Under the veils of mist he comes from his fens; over the fields through the darkness; on to Hrothgar's palace, the doors of which he tears open, as so often before. How the fiend laughed as he saw the warriors on the floor, and chose among them for his feast! One he seizes, tears in bloody fragments, and eats and gorges, all save the hands and feet. Next he advances to Beowulf, who has been not asleep, but watching the procedure. But now he meets his match. Beowulf reaches out his hand to seize that of the Grendel and raises himself on his elbow. Soon does the fiend perceive that never throughout the earth had he met one who had a stronger hand-grip. Fain would he have been off to his fens and his tumult of devils there. But the good kinsman of Higelac remembers his task; he rises upright on his feet, still holding his grip, and facing the Grendel—the Grendel tugging doorwards, the hero inwards. The uproar and the Grendel's yells of pain awake all the palace; the house almost tumbles with the din; the thanes congregate, beholding. One of Beowulf's Scyldings draws a sword and strikes at the Grendel, to help his chief. In vain: no steel or war-bill avails against that accursed hide—nothing but the hand-grip of a man. But that was now here, and the fiend knew it. "The foul wretch awaited his mortal wound. A mighty gash became evident in his shoulder; the sinews sprang asunder; the junctures of the bones burst; success in the war was given to Beowulf." Away, sick unto death, flees the Grendel to his refuges in the fens, leaving his arm behind him. Then what joy among Hrothgar and his thanes—what mead-feasts—what songs by the minstrels—what praises of Beowulf, and presents to him of golden cups!

But the danger is not yet over. In the night comes, not Grendel now, but Grendel's mother, a horrid wolf-hag of the seas, to revenge her mortally-wounded son. She murders one of Hrothgar's dearest thanes, and escapes with the body. Beowulf, to complete his adventure, proposes to trace her, follow her, and slay her. Hrothgar and his thanes, and even the hero himself, are doubtful of his success this time. But he does succeed. The king and his thanes and Beowulf and his men set forth, and, by the help of wise men, track their monstrous foe, through a dreary plain and a dismal wood, to the sea-cliff under which lie her caverns. They find the murdered thane's mail on the cliff; the sea is bloody; sea-dragons and slimy snakes

are swimming about; and nickers lie basking on the promontories. Into one of these monsters Beowulf sends a shaft which wounds it so that they grapple it with hooks as it swims and haul it out on the cliff. Then Beowulf descends into the sea on his perilous errand, clad in his ringed mail-shirt which a famous war-smith had made, and armed with a magically-tempered sword, Hrunting, which Hrothgar's chief skald had lent him. It is long before he sees the bottom. There the sea-hag, grim and greedy, who has been aware of the descent through the water of one of the sons of men, grapples him in her claws, and, amid sea-beasts biting at his mail with their tusks, drags him into her cavern—a strange hall into which the water does not enter, and where a pale light is gleaming. Here is the deadly battle. The hero swings his sword; it sings its war-song on the scaly head and hide of the monster; but, best of swords as it is, it will not bite. Once more then for that last resource of strength, the hand-grip of a man, to which every man must betake himself when he intends his best! But the fiend seems the stronger; the hero falls; she strikes at him with her brown-edged knife. His breast-mail turns it; he stands again erect, and, seeing a huge sword near, a work of the giants, clutches it by the belted hilt. With this he assails the sea-hag; he entangles the hilt in her neck; presses it there till the bone-rings of her neck break; and then runs her through the body and cuts off her head. The blade shrivels and melts with the hot poison of her blood, and only the hilt remains in the hero's hand. With this he ascends through the flood, till Hrothgar and his thanes—who have waited long, have seen the bloody bubbling of waves caused by the submarine commotion, and given him up for lost—behold him reappearing. To them he narrates his battle, and shows the loathly head of the Grendel's mother and the bladeless sword-hilt. So was Hrothgar's land purged of its pest, and all the land and the world around spoke of the deeds of Beowulf.

The poem does not end here. It goes on to tell of Beowulf's voyage home, laden with gifts; of his reception by Higelac; of his succession, after Higelac's death, to the kingship of the Geats; and of his good and glorious reign of fifty years, till at last, in a battle with a dragon, who is then ravaging that land as Grendel had ravaged Hrothgar's long before, he is so poisonously wounded that, though he kills the dragon, he dies himself. His warriors raise a grand funeral-pile and burn him on the high promontory of Hronesnæs, looking towards the broad sea; and here they raise a huge mound which warriors from far off see and recognise.

The following account of the embarkation of Beowulf and his companions for their homeward-voyage, after the delivery of Hrothgar's land from the Grendel and his mother, may serve as a specimen of the kind of verse in which the poem is written, and of the maritime descriptions with which it abounds:—

Came to the flood then fighting men many,  
Comely young men clad in ring-nets,  
Locked in limb-shirts. And them the land-guard  
Watching once more, now on their way home,  
Not as before, from nose of the sea-slope,  
Greeted them grimly, but rode to give them  
Words of welcome, the western strangers.  
Shone all the shore as shipwards stepped they.  
There on the sand was the sea-curved galley,  
Litter of war-weeds lay on the ringed prow,  
Riches rare, and rose the high mast  
Over Hrothgar's hoards of treasure.  
On their boat-guard eke bestowed he [*i.e.*, Beowulf]  
A sword gold-cyphered, so that thenceforth  
Mightier was he on the mead-bench  
By that heir-loom. Thus in the boat they  
Drove through deep water, the Danes' land  
leaving.

As to the geography and topography of the poem of *Beowulf* there have been differences of opinion and much discussion; but generally the conclusion has been that it is

an old epic or legend of those parts of the Continent where Germany shades into Scandinavia, and that in particular we are to fancy the voyages which it describes to be voyages to and fro along the Danish coasts between North Denmark or Jutland, and Schleswig or still more southern and Teutonic lands. There has been a natural tendency also to make the hero, Beowulf himself, by hook or by crook a kind of Englishman—that is, to see in him an Engle chief, the legends of whose exploits in relieving his neighbour-Danes of the monsters that were oppressing them were favourites with the Engle tribes of Schleswig and those parts ere yet they had any connexion with England, and were not forgotten when they came over to England. Well, is the spirit of Beowulf, this prototype of Englishmen, still in us; and are we, in the changed circumstances of these modern days, to repeat his exploits? There seems a rush in this direction—a sort of outbreak of hereditary Beowulf phrenzy among thousands who never heard of Beowulf. The outcry among us is as if the Grendel and Grendel's mother were again among the Danes, murdering and spoiling them, and as if it behoved the sea-faring Engles, led by some heroic chief, again to take to their ships for the expedition of rescue. There has been seen in vision the Danish watchman again beholding from his promontory the approaching fleet of the strangers, and at first not knowing who they are, but, when he does know who they are, and for what end they come, joyfully throwing up his cap and running inland to announce the glad tidings. For our part, we have a horror at the prospect in which so many seem to exult. We should like to see the old poem of *Beowulf* more read; but we should hope that, according to the best reading of it, we should come to a very different interpretation of our duty than that Britain is bound to act the Beowulf now, and grapple in death-grips with Prussia and the rest of Germany as if they were as loathly as Grendel and Grendel's mother.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

## MR. LONG'S "DECLINE OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC."

*The Decline of the Roman Republic.* By George Long. Vol. I. (Bell and Daldy.)

FEW men in England have been so long familiar with the period of Roman history treated in this work, and few, if any, have written so much upon it as Mr. Long. His editions of Caesar, Sallust, and the orations of Cicero, and his numerous articles, especially those on Roman law, contributed to Dr. Smith's famous dictionaries, make his writing a systematic history on the decline of the Roman Republic a natural event. But, to speak frankly, we cannot regard his present book as one of great value or importance. It may be briefly described as the process of writing history exhibited to the public before completion—Appian, Plutarch, and Sallust, with the other minor and meagre authorities, being frequently almost translated; the passages welded together in a more or less chronological order, and interspersed with one or two dissertations and minor criticisms on the worth of the authorities, the habits of modern writers, and the claims of the nineteenth century to be better than the century or two before Christ. Some parts are more lively than other histories, owing to the details and anecdotes which have been left us by the ancients being here reproduced; other parts are much duller, owing to all kinds of matter, which might or might not be worth discussing in a footnote, being intruded into the text. Mr. Long has, no doubt, besides his acquaintance with the texts, a good deal of knowledge—geographical, legal, and other; he is conscientious even to minute particulars; where the authorities vary he is independent in his judgment; and he takes a fresh interest in the life of the ancients. But he has not made himself

well acquainted with the modern literature of his subject; he has not thoroughly digested his materials, so as to write either a systematic exposition or a clear consecutive narrative; and, not unfrequently, he gives elementary commonplaces instead of significant political principles, and talks somewhat childishly where he means to be caustic.

In his preface he admits much of this, and declares that so it must be if a writer on Roman history is to deal carefully with the original authorities and not go beyond them; and he then devotes several pages to a vindication of Machiavelli, without being required to do so by any use to which he afterwards puts him. If Machiavelli's fame depended on the reflections Mr. Long quotes and applies, it would not be great either for good or for bad. Nor are we at all satisfied with even the legal portions of the book. They are not clear or well arranged, nor at all commensurate with Mr. Long's reputation; and many of them have the same great fault as, we think, his other writings on Roman law—of being written in a jargon of Latin and English. It is either carelessness, or at best a mistaken theory of precision, fairly entitled to be called pedantry, which induces a writer to make the "Licinia lex," "heredes," "magistratus," "tribuni plebis," "clientes," "patroni," "quaestio de repetundis," "labella," "jugera," parts of an English sentence, where they are not merely first introduced to be explained. Doubtless they have no exact English equivalent; but, then, no more have multitudes of others which we translate or at least give an English dress to. Mr. Long's articles in Smith's *Antiquities* would have been far more readable if they had not been of so mongrel a composition, and had not each presumed a knowledge of the others.

Two books especially seem to have been neglected by Mr. Long—Mommson's incomparably better *History*, and his recently-published volume of *Early Roman Inscriptions*. Possibly some part of Mr. Long's volume may have been printed before this last could have come to his hands; but it has been out now at least a year and a half, and one would have expected Mr. Long to use it. As it is, his long comments on the "Thorica lex" have been written quite independently of Mommson's labours; and in two at least of his references to the *Fasti Capitolini* (pp. 208, 318) he has been deceived by the older editions. Nor are these by any means the only parts where Mr. Long's book has suffered by the want of resort to this admirable collection.

But Roman inscriptions were accessible before Mommson's edition; and, when Mr. Long ventures on etymologies, and asserts (p. 269), for instance, that the genuine Roman form is "not *provincia* but *provincia*," as the best manuscripts show," he should have bethought him that we have actual records of the Roman spelling earlier than Cicero's days. In this very Agrarian law (*lex Thoria*), in the law on Extortion written on the back of the same tablet, in the fragment of Sulla's law on the appointment of scribes to the quaestors, and in other inscriptions we have *provincia* several times—nowhere *provincia*. When we add that *provincia*, though occasionally found in MSS. of the tenth or eleventh century, is, so far as we know, not the reading of the best at all, our readers will probably view with some suspicion Mr. Long's statements on such matters.

Take another instance of carelessness. In Chapter VII. Mr. Long says—

The Romans were weary of the long war in Spain, and they looked about for a general who was fit to lead their armies. They might have found one sooner, but there stood in the way, as Livy's epitome reports it, an enactment that no man should be consul twice within ten years. Some modern writers, in quoting the epitome omit the words within ten years (*intra decem annos*); and so the rule would be absolute that no man could be elected twice.

Mr. Long must use a very old edition, one would fancy; for the objection to *intra decem annos* is as old as Sigonius, who omitted it on

MSS. authority. Drakenborch omits it also on MSS. authority, and Weissenborn follows suit. What edition of any worth now retains it? We do not know; probably none. Mr. Long seems generally content with a very loose examination of texts, and not careful to take the best, or even new ones.

But let us take a glimpse of Rome in B.C. 131:—

The reading of homilies, or the preaching of sermons, does not seem to have been part of the duty of the ordinary priests at Rome; but the censors, in performing the Lustrum, discharged a religious duty, and sometimes accompanied it with a sermon. The text of Metellus was on the duty of marriage. . . . Part of this speech is preserved by Gellius, but he has, perhaps, erroneously assigned it to Metellus Numidicus. Metellus, addressing the people, said: "If, Quirites, we could do without wines, we should all avoid this trouble; but, since nature has so arranged it that we can neither live very happily with them nor live in any way without them, we ought to have regard to the lasting interests of the state rather than to our own brief satisfaction. Great is the power of the immortal gods; but we cannot expect them to be better disposed towards us than our own parents are. Now parents by their testament disinherit children if they persist in doing wrong. What, then, can we continue to expect from the immortal gods if we do not put an end to bad principles? It is reasonable that the gods should show their favour to those only who are not their own enemies. The immortal gods are bound to approve of virtue, not to give it to us."

This same Metellus, in the exercise of his functions as censor,

ejected from the senate the tribune C. Atinius Labeo Macerio. The tribune attempted to avenge himself by seizing Metellus as he was coming home from the Campus Martius, and ordering him to be thrown down the Tarpeian rock; but he was saved by the interposition of another tribune, who was found with difficulty, for it was the time of mid-day, and the Forum and the Capitol were deserted. . . . This crazy tribune, having failed to assassinate a censor, tried the charms of religion against him. Taking with him a man to blow the flute—for such was a necessary actor at a solemn ceremony—and a brazier of coals to the Rostra, he consecrated to religious uses, his piper duly piping the while, all the property of Metellus. The farce was intended and calculated to have some effect on a superstitious people. If we believe Pliny [Hist. Nat. vii. 44], such was the power of this solemnity that Metellus henceforth could not touch his property and lived on the bounty of others; or we may believe and hope, with the author of the oration *De Domo* [cap. 47], that the tribune's ridiculous trick produced no effect, and that Metellus still went on eating, drinking, and clothing himself at his own cost instead of troubling his friends. We have still to add to this strange story that, among so many Metelli, and among the four sons of the censor, there was not a man who ventured to punish Atinius for this brutal violence.

Mr. Long's intention is to continue the history to the close of the civil wars. If he would digest his matter better and give precise references, he might yet make a useful book.

## THE DOLOMITE MOUNTAINS.

*Excursions through Tyrol, Carinthia, Carniola and Friuli in 1861, 1862, and 1863; with a Geological Chapter and Pictorial Illustrations from original Drawings on the spot.* By Josiah Gilbert and G. C. Churchill, F.G.S. (Longman & Co.)

THE physical geography of the Alps, and especially of that part of the great mountain-chain east of the Rhine valley, is not familiar to English travellers. No doubt the extreme western portion of the Tyrol and the northern valleys near the Danube are every year visited by large numbers of tourists; but these rarely penetrate beyond the high roads and larger towns, while the Carnic and Julian Alps, except where they are crossed by the railway, or when a stray geologist makes his way to the celebrated beds of St. Cassian, are comparatively neglected. A very elaborate recent German account of Predazzo, St. Cassian, and the Seisser Alp has, however, thrown much light

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both on the geology and geography of the district, and has shown that the exceedingly remarkable and complex system of volcanic eruptions, partly sub-aerial, partly submarine, which has modified, if it has not chiefly elevated, this portion of the great mountain-belt of the Old World has produced results in the highest degree important and interesting. These eruptions seem to belong to the oldest extinct volcanoes of central Europe. The Baron von Richthofen, the author of the work alluded to, has endeavoured to show that no less than eight successive and distinct eruptions took place in the Carnic Alps during the Triassic period. The conglomerates are there converted into porphyry; large quantities of volcanic tufa are incorporated with aqueous deposits; while limestones and other calcareous rocks have been interpenetrated with magnesia, and thus, to use a geological expression, have become *dolomitized*, or converted into that peculiar crystalline combination of carbonate of lime with carbonate of magnesia long since named *DOLOMITE*. Most of the deposits discovered within the district belong, as we have already observed, to the oldest rocks of the secondary series, combining the lowest lias of English geologists with the various triassic beds of Europe. In our own country the calcareous member of the trias is almost absent, while in central Europe it is largely developed; and thus the fossils, as well as the general aspect of the rock, are altogether distinct in the two countries. Dolomitic limestones are, no doubt, well known in England; but they belong chiefly to the Permian group, a part of the great palæozoic formation. There are, in other countries, similar rocks belonging to the middle and newer parts of the secondary group, and even to the tertiary limestones.

The mode of conversion of common carbonate of lime into a mixed carbonate of lime and magnesia, exhibited thus in so many places, has been long a subject of inquiry among geologists and geological chemists. Whether produced by magnesian vapours penetrating porous limestones, or by filtration from above, or occasionally by both methods, is by no means clear; and nothing in the volume before us throws much light on this *vevata quæstio*. The authors of the volume make a very imperfect allusion to the suggestions of the late Dr. Forchhammer on the subject, though they are perhaps quite as reasonable as some of more modern date that are quoted. We find, however, the useful suggestion of Mr. Sterry Hunt, to the effect that the contraction caused during the conversion of carbonate of lime into dolomite will serve to account for the fissures and cavities well known to characterize the massive varieties of dolomite; and this chemical inference is mentioned in reference to the theory put forward by Richthofen, that the limestones of St. Cassian are remains of ancient coral reefs. The dolomites of England and of Northern Europe may not improbably have had a similar origin.

However this may be, not only in the Eastern Tyrol, but in many other parts of Europe, especially in the South of Spain, where Jurassic limestones are converted into crystalline dolomite on a very large scale, it is certain that the picturesque features of a country are greatly affected by this metamorphism; while, even in England, the magnesian limestone is so different in its aspect from other rocks as to have been noticed by all travellers. On the coast of Durham the well-known memoir by Prof. Sedgwick illustrates these peculiarities. In Leicestershire the dolomitized carboniferous limestone of Bredon is hardly less striking; and many other examples might be quoted. It is enough to remind the reader that, although the authors of the book before us describe their subject with all the freshness of novelty, it is not unfamiliar to geologists, nor has it escaped the notice of those who study the influence produced by certain varieties of rock upon scenery.

The physical features of the great dolomite district of the Carnic Alps are exceedingly

remarkable. From Botzen in the Etsch Thal to Villach in the valley of the Drave, there extend a hundred-and-twenty miles of mountain country not yet approached by any railway. Two streams—one running west along the Puster Thal, and the other, the Drave, running east, and approaching the Puster Thal at Inichen, where it is within a mile of the waters of the Puster—form together a natural northern boundary to this tract. To the south the tract is cut through at very frequent intervals by numerous valleys opening into the plains of Lombardy. Within this area are the dolomite mountains. The dolomite district is penetrated by the Fassa Thal from the west, and by the valleys Agordo and Ampezzo from the east; and the celebrated Marmolata, the culminating peak of the district, is approachable from Botzen with no great difficulty. Marmolata is a grand mountain, 11,200 feet high, absolutely precipitous to the south-east and west, and having a smooth slope to the north, very difficult of access and covered almost entirely with glaciers whose melting supplies a river. It has been ascended from Caprile, and also from the Fassa Thal; but the accounts are not so satisfactory as might be desired.

The Rosengarten dolomites and those of the Seisser Alp are those that seem to have first attracted and astonished our travellers. They are not far from Botzen. The "massif" of the Rosengarten, its wildernesses, caldrons, and other perplexities, are all on the eastern side. They are, beyond a doubt, exceedingly wild and picturesque. But the view of Monte Civito and Caprile, a little further to the east, and better visited from Belluno, is described as holding the first place among dolomite scenery. Entering it from the Fassa Thal by the Fedaia pass, we are told—

The valley, narrowing always, and turning more and more towards the Marmolata, leads under the north face of that mountain, whose tremendous precipices rise upon the right in walls and buttresses of bulk enormous. The path is lifted out of the ravine by successive rocky staircases, each a toilsome bit of climbing. Then the ravine, sinking out of sight, becomes an abyss, into which the precipices of the Marmolata plunge in gloom, and three fine glaciers, suspended on the edge of the escarpment, successively pour their streams (p. 133).

On the hill-side is a cultivated alp with a tarn; and, after crowning the pass, a grand view of the dolomitic district bursts on the sight. To the south-east a crest of pale spiry pinnacles is seen rising high above an intervening mountain, and there is an abrupt drop into the valley beneath. Winding along this valley we come to another scene of great sublimity.

It is a gorge like that of Pfeffers, but grander, according to our impression—grander in its features, grander in its solitude. A torrent rushed between narrowing walls a thousand feet in height on either side and filled the darkness with its roar. The passage, never wider than that of an ordinary street, was fully a mile in length, and the path along it, constructed only for access to the higher pastures, was banded from side to side on rough shelves, or carried lengthwise over the stream where there was not room for both. At one such place the entire width of the chasm did not exceed twelve feet. It was like being at the bottom of the Via Mala, along with the torrent there, and sharing its awful fortunes. The noise was so great that we could not hear each other's voices, but by lifted hands expressed our growing amazement. The turns were so frequent that the donkeys in front were continually disappearing as into some dark doorway; and, when we finally emerged, the entrance was so immediately hidden that no one would have guessed the existence of such a rift through the rocky mass (p. 135).

Close to the gorge thus described is Caprile, with Monte Civita, whose spiry pinnacles had already been seen rising immediately and boldly behind it. It is more than 10,000 feet in height, but appears "like a sharp uplifted screen, so sharp and spiky are its pinnacles, so sheer its walls, so slight its buttresses." The mountain is really an hour's walk from the village, and a modern

lake intervenes, formed by a landslip that took place less than a century ago.

From Caprile there is a pass at the back of the Marmolata to St. Cassian and the Gader Thal, and another to Cortina, in the valley of Ampezzo, passing Monte Tofana. At Cortina there is good accommodation, as the town lies on one of the travelled roads through the Tyrol; and it is, in some respects, the best head-quarters for the dolomite district. An easy road conducts northwards into the Puster Thal in the Austrian Tyrol, and southwards to Belluno in Venetia. From the former there is entrance to Carinthia by the Gail Thal over a low pass. The Gail Thal is perfectly accessible and richly wooded, affording abundant interest to the naturalist of all departments; but it is very little visited—indeed so little that our travellers in 1862 could hardly find wherewithal to satisfy hunger. It is not even mentioned in "Murray." Botanists occasionally visit the town of Hermagor in search of the *Wulfenia*—a rare, almost unique, but by no means small plant, found on the slopes of the Gartner, and possessing no other known habitat on the globe, though discovered by the Baron Wulf so long ago as in 1779. Specimens were found by one of the authors, chiefly on the slope of one of the Alps (the Kühwege Alp).

Thousands of stems rose up within a comparatively small area, and scores of colonies in twos and threes—often of young plants—were scattered sporadically around over a much wider space. The habit of the plant would probably remind the unbotanical observer of a *Foxglove*; it is about eighteen inches high, provided with a rosette of large scalloped leaves, of a lettuce-like form, and a stem all but bare of leaves, crowned with a spike of deep purple-blue flowers, all turning one way (p. 199).

Hermagor, like the rest of Carinthia, is Slavish, and the whole of the lower valley of the Gail and Save are inhabited by Slovenes. It is supposed that they are descendants of those who led Attila's Hunnish bands over the Carnic Alps into Italy. A great Roman road was constructed through this part of the Alps connecting Italy and Germany.

From Hermagor to Villach—where the railway is reached—the distance is small; but, about half-way between the two towns, we may turn off to a rough and rarely travelled road connecting Villach and Flitsch, whence it is easy to run down by the Isonzo to Udine, a station on the line from Trieste to Venice. This district forms a kind of watershed, and is a natural boundary between Carnia on the west and Carniola on the east. Sir Humphrey Davy was delighted with it, and said concerning it, "I know no scene more sublime than this crest of the Carnic Alps; and there are no streams more beautiful than the Save and the Isonzo." The Save is reached at Wurzen, a short distance from Villach, and may be followed thence to Laibach. The Isonzo rises in the mountains east of Flitsch, and enters the Gulf of Trieste, passing not far from Idria, and traversing a mining district of some importance. There are numerous excursions of extreme interest to be made both from Villach and Flitsch.

The Predil pass between Villach and Flitsch is not only very fine and picturesque in itself, but has more than once been the scene of important conflicts between races as well as armies. A small fort formerly commanded the pass at a point where the valley is narrowed to a gorge, "and the river is madder than ever with the torment of the rocks. Then its roar sinks into a dull distant sound; and, when you look for it, there is nothing but a chasm which narrows to a rift almost concealed by bushes. Here a bridge is thrown across; and, as you lean over the parapet, you see, at a shuddering depth, only a moving blackness!" The remains of the old fort stand on a mound by the side of this fearful chasm; but the new fort is further from the entrance to the gorge, as the old one was commanded by the high ground behind, whence it was destroyed by the French in 1809.

25 JUNE, 1864.

The dolomites of the Ampezzo valley are hardly less striking, and are by no means so inaccessible as those of the other valleys. They afford, indeed, the only carriage-drive through the district, and may be traversed in a summer's day on the journey to or from Venice. They are very striking, but much more so when their proportions are already known, as many of their points of interest are dwarfed by the gigantic features of the landscape. The Pelmo, the Antelao, and the Malcora are each mountains of the first class. They are nearly inaccessible, are inexpressibly grand, and are seen in succession, almost destroying each other's effect. Days are required to appreciate them; for, as with Niagara and others of Nature's largest works, the human mind, accustomed to appreciate much smaller objects, requires time to grasp these giant phenomena. Besides the mountains named, the Tofana, also a noble mountain, if not darkened by clouds, will complicate the scene.

A peculiar feature in this group of mountains and mountain-scenery must here be noticed. It is the existence of those curious natural amphitheatres, more common in the Pyrenees than the Alps, in which a comparatively level floor or arena is surrounded by terraces and walls of surpassing grandeur. Such an amphitheatre, or, at least, an approximation to it, is seen in the neighbourhood of Engelberg, in Switzerland, and is there called, not inappropriately, *le bout du monde*. Here, surrounded by bare dolomitic spires, there rises to the sky a vast wall with snow on each terrace-ledge. "A glacier lies gleaming in the midst, and a cascade, supplied by a tarn hid behind the precipices, tumbles out below into a dark blue depth among the pines."

Although it is true that the title of the book before us is not altogether carried out by the descriptions, and many readers not geologically instructed might rise from reading it with exceedingly inaccurate notions of the true meaning of the name "Dolomite Mountains," yet it is full of interesting description, and not overloaded with science. The narratives are by different hands, including a series of letters by the wife of one of the authors. Geology and Botany alternate, and there is a fair account of the ordinary incidents of travel through a country far less visited than could be imagined from its close vicinity to some of the most travelled parts of the Continent. Like other accounts of personal adventure, the result of journeys undertaken with a definite object, and not merely to write a book or while away the time, it contains much that is instructive, and the story is told pleasantly enough. We recommend those of our readers who are preparing their long-vacation plans, and are limited for time, to try some of the valleys here described. We can assure them that, in the valley of the Save, reached from Laibach; the upper part of the valley of the Drave, or the Gail Thal, reached from Villach—or, again, in the Fassa Thal, or the Ampezzo—they will spend a few weeks with far more satisfaction, and reap a larger stock of health and strength, than by pursuing the beaten paths in Switzerland. They will find as much to do and admire, and much less crowding and expense. They may also work out many points in Geology and Natural History, especially the former; for the St. Cassian beds are still puzzling, and the condition of the triassic deposits throughout the Carnic Alps requires much more consideration than it has yet received. Some knowledge of German and some indifference to luxuries are indispensable to the traveller in this part of Europe.

#### TOVEY ON BRITISH AND FOREIGN SPIRITS.

*British and Foreign Spirits: their History, Manufacture, Properties, &c.* By Charles Tovey. (Whittaker & Co.)

WE have never seen nor heard of Mr. Tovey's book on "Wine and Wine Countries," to which he makes allusion in the preface to this volume, though, from the practical

knowledge of the author, it might be worthy of review. It appears it was the reception given to his first essay on wine which induced the writer to compile a companion book upon British and foreign spirits. From a very early age, it seems, Mr. Tovey became acquainted with the process of distillation; and, when a boy, he spent many an hour in illicit manufacture over a very rude still, the body of the still being part of a tin saucepan. The introduction of the author of this volume to business was, he informs us, in the manufacturing department of one of the largest rectifying distilleries, and his occupation there was entirely connected with working the stills, with gin manufacture and cordial-making. A gentleman who, in the early part of his life, often spent from 5 a.m. till 12 p.m. in these occupations possesses sufficient practical knowledge to write with authority on distillation, gin, hollands, whisky, brandy, rum, punch, liqueurs, and cordials. Mr. Tovey dedicates eight chapters to these subjects, and, in the compass of 272 pages, gives a great deal of valuable information, from the process of distillation to the introduction and manufacture, in a perfect state, of strong drinks, cordials, and liqueurs.

The process of distillation is easily described. A well-regulated heat is applied to fluid substances to separate the more volatile constituents, which pass over in vapour, and are condensed by cold into a liquid state by passing through the "worm." There is no doubt, as Mr. Tovey says, that the Greeks and Romans were well acquainted with the distillation of aromatic waters. Nicander uses the term *αμβύξ*, and speaks of distillation in describing the preparation of rose-water. It is from the Arabians, however, that we have derived a perfect knowledge of distillation. They first practised the art of extracting the aromatic essences of plants and flowers, and they are supposed to have extracted a colourless spirit from wine also by distillation. Be this as it may, Hippocrates, Galen, Aristotle, and Dioscorides all used in medicine distilled spirituous liquors; and the latter has left more than fifty receipts for various beverages, the types of some that exist and are consumed to the present day. Hippocrates, still used in many Continental countries, takes its name from the father of medicine, and was composed, in the days of Hippocrates himself, with wine, cinnamon, and honey. It was subsequently improved by the Piedmontese distiller Alexis by the addition of other ingredients; but the fundamental basis of Hippocras is pretty much the same now as it was in the olden time.

Mr. Gladstone, in his budget-speech in the present year, stated that, from the article of ardent spirits alone, we raise nearly one-fifth of the national income. The revenue derived from spirits in 1863 and 1864 was £12,638,100, whilst the malt duties produced only £6,091,000, or not half the amount. The activity and bustle displayed in our metropolitan distilleries are thus described by our author:—

Those who have never visited one of our large distilleries in full operation can have but little notion of the busy, active scene therein displayed. The noise from machinery in all parts of the premises, the rushing of steam, the pumps in action everywhere, the whirring of wheels, the heavy drone, with a sort of metallic, crackling accompaniment, produced when the stills are what is called "coming through"—that is, when boiling has commenced—the clashing of furnace-doors, the heat and glare from the fires, the hurried scamper of men, up one ladder and down another, keep the visitor in a state of perpetual alarm. He thinks something has gone wrong, and mistakes the earnestness of men in their vocation, and their hurried movements, for the excitement of danger. He knows that above, below, and all around he is encompassed by inflammable material, the exhalations from which permeate into his very system, but fail to keep his courage up: in vain does his intelligent guide explain to him the operations going on; he is bewildered with pipes lateral and perpendicular, large and small, everywhere in mysterious conjunction. Reservoirs, vats of mammoth size and ponderous dimensions,

above and below ground, increase his terror. As he proceeds on his way he is perhaps startled by finding himself within a step of falling into an open spirit "back," the cover of which had been removed for some temporary purpose.

Spirits are, in this country, manufactured from barley, rye, wheat, oats, buck-wheat, and maize. Those who are curious as to the processes of mashing, fermentation, brewing, &c., will find them described at pp. 7-12. On the numerous excise regulations Mr. Tovey dilates at some length, but always in a spirit of candour. While he admits that some of these are harassing and vexatious, he also concedes that the cupidity and avarice of the illicit trader are always at work with schemes of the craftiest description to defraud the revenue.

Our neighbours the French were the first to effect an improvement upon the ordinary distilling apparatus; and the names of Adam, Solimani, and Barard are inseparably connected with this history of progress. For rectifying purposes the still of St. Marc, a French veterinary surgeon who removed to England in 1823, was a great improvement on the ordinary still. He obtained a patent for this in 1827, and then disposed of it to some Londoners. The most ingenious and original apparatus for distilling is, however, Coffee's, which produces the alcohol in the purest state, and of any desired strength, at one operation. All spirits manufactured in the United Kingdom by distillation are denominated British plain spirits. The same spirit rectified and made into gin is called British compounds, the symbol expressing which is "X." The name of gin, according to Mr. Tovey, became familiar soon after the Revolution, when the importation of spirit from Holland became general. Sometimes this spirit was called Hollands, sometimes Geneva, sometimes Hollands Geneva or Hollands gin. In the reign of Charles II. the importation of, and the preference given to, foreign against British manufacture was a subject of complaint. In the second year of William and Mary an Act was passed for encouraging the distilling of brandy and spirits from corn. The Act gave full liberty to every one to exercise the trade of distiller; and, as trade and commerce with France were then prohibited, it gave encouragement to the British distiller and increased the consumption of home-made spirits. By this encouragement the number of distillers increased. During the latter part of the reign of George I., and the earlier part of the reign of George II., gin-drinking was very prevalent. The cheapness of ardent spirits and the multiplication of public-houses were denounced from the pulpit and in the presentments of grand-juries. The duties on spirits were raised; but high duties, as the experience of more than a century proves, have been almost uniformly productive of loss to the revenue, while they are also calculated to give encouragement to the illicit dealer. In 1860 the present Chancellor of the Exchequer thought it expedient to raise the duty on spirits from 8s. 1d. to 10s. per gallon, anticipating a permanent increase to the revenue of £1,400,000; but this expectation was not fulfilled.

Enough, however, on matters of revenue. The reader will be more anxious to learn the ingredients in making gin than the revenue levied from it. Mr. Tovey thus discourses:—

The ingredients used in making gin in the present day are very few, and they are all of a wholesome character. Taste in the flavour of gin varies in different localities, and that which may be palatable in one county may be disliked in another. The flavour approved of in London and the Midland counties would be rejected in the West of England, especially in the neighbourhood of Barnstaple and Bideford, where an almost plain spirit is preferred; whilst in Plymouth and Cornwall a coarse imitation of Hollands has its general admirers. One house in particular in Plymouth has a monopoly for a peculiar flavour in its gin, which would be unpalatable to those accustomed to a spirit of a different character. Much more pains are taken to cleanse the spirit now than formerly, and there are less ingredients used. Some of our recipes for cordial and London

gin date back as far as 1820, and contain orris root, calamus root, cardamoms, almond cake, liquorice powder—all of which, we believe, are now entirely abandoned. The gin which we have found to be most generally approved in the majority of counties in England, and which has its admirers in the Colonies, is prepared as follows:—Charge the still with 1900 gallons of grain spirit at proof. Add 25 lbs. grey and white salts, 63 lbs. coriander seeds. Run off 1200 gallons of spirit, average strength 40 over proof; reduce to meet the strength of your flavour. For flavour,—charge with 474 gallons of clean spirit 41 over proof. Ingredients as follows:—3 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. German juniper berries, 27 lbs. bitter orange peel, 13½ lbs. angelica root. Run off until it becomes milky, reduce to 28 under proof, and force it thus:—To 900 gallons add 1½ lbs. of alum, ½ lb. of salt of tartar; put in the latter first. To flavour the coriander spirit and complete the gin 22½ per cent. is generally used. The faints of this flavour can be worked and the whole of the produce added to the first working.

Plain or London gin is made thus:—

700 galls. of the second rectification.  
70 lbs. of German juniper berries.  
70 „ of coriander seeds.  
3½ „ of almond cake.  
1½ „ of angelica root.  
6 „ of liquorice powder.

The following tit-bits as to the Garrick Club gin-punch and American gin-sling are worthy of extract:—

The Garrick Club is celebrated for its summer gin-punch, which is made in the following manner:—Pour half a pint of gin on the outer peel of a lemon, then a little lemon juice, a glass of Maraschino, about a pint and a quarter of water, and two bottles of iced soda-water: this will make three pints of exquisite punch. The American summer-drink, gin-sling, is prepared thus:—Gin and water, sweetened with pounded white sugar, in which are stuck leaves of fresh gathered mint. Pounded or planed Wenham Lake ice is put into the tumbler, and the drink is imbibed through a straw or glass tube. At the American bars the gin and water are first put into a large silver or glass goblet, then the ice, planed or broken very small; pounded white sugar is then dashed over them with a table-spoon; the whole is then violently shaken, or tossed from one goblet to another, and served up in a clean goblet; fresh mint is stuck in the ice, a piece of lemon-peel hangs over the brim, and a straw is put into the glass, through which the mixture is imbibed.

The discovery of Hollands Geneva is attributed to Professor Sylvius of Leyden, who died in 1672. It was first sold in apothecaries' shops, but it became so universal a medicine that many of the apothecaries established distilleries. The Dutch appear to have understood its manufacture better than any other nation, and they always maintained a reputation for producing the best Geneva. Mr. Tovey gives the *modus operandi* in the manufacture of Hollands at p. 16—a passage which we have not space to extract. An imitation of Hollands is made by some rectifiers, and meets with a sale in Cornwall and the West of England. Plymouth gin, it is said, is somewhat of the character of Hollands. The original Maidstone gin is still distilled at Maidstone and Dover.

The word "whisky" is, according to Mr. Tovey, a corruption of the Gaelic *Uisge*. In this derivation the author agrees with Dr. Johnson, who, we may add in passing, thought the whisky he tasted at Inverary preferable to any English malt brandy. The finest small, still Highland whisky is made in the counties of Argyle, Perth, and the islands of Islay and Iona. The Argyle distillery of Glengilp, Ardrishaig, appears to Mr. Tovey to be perfect, and has the advantage of every modern application. In the Highlands peat only is used; but in the Lowland malt-distilleries coke is mixed with the peat. We believe with Mr. Tovey that the peculiar flavour in the Highland whisky is very uncertain and not to be accounted for, and is attributable more to the locality in which it is made than to any particular method of making it. It is a curious fact that, in two distilleries in play near to each other, belonging to the same proprietor, and in both of which the process of working was the same, the produce

was distinctly different, one whisky realising one shilling per gallon more than the other. It is with whisky as with wine. A whisky of several varieties blended is superior to any one kind.

In speaking of whisky Mr. Tovey talks of the Irish usquebaugh, and says that Ware and Ledwich state that it was of a less inflammatory nature than any made in England. We do not believe that usquebaugh was ever generally made in England, and sure we are that such fiery stuff could never be popular among the higher or middle classes of our population. To Ireland, and to Ireland alone, belongs the invention of what is properly called *seubac*, *shubagh*, or *usquebaugh*; and the place of its fabrication is Drogheda, a town built on the Boyne, and also famous for a fat, sweet ale, sometimes called Castle Bellingham ale. In the days of Cromwell Drogheda was called Tredagh, and it was then more famous for usquebaugh than it is now. Then, as now, however, usquebaugh was only fit tippie for a Gueber, for then, as now, it was a decoction of barley tinged with an infusion of saffron and a *quantum sufficit* of sugar, and more than a *quantum* of spirits of wine. Schubagh was counterfeited in France, but only mildly. The French added new ingredients to mollify the fiery qualities—such as mace, cloves, cinnamon, jujubes, aniseed, juniper-leaves, &c.; but the author of a recent work tells us that the beverage never became a favourite, though it had a repute in the northern ports of Copenhagen, Stockholm, Revel, and Riga, where the climate obliges the natives to have recourse to stronger cordials than are welcome in warmer latitudes. The Irish are fond of saffron in other ways than in usquebaugh. They delight in saffron cakes; and, so late as 1840, the late Duke of Wellington used to have a weekly supply of these saffron cakes from a then famous Dublin confectioner, Murray of Grafton Street.

In his chapter on brandy Mr. Tovey tells us little new. He is quite right when he speaks of the absurdity of relying on particular brands for first-rate cognac. Any dealer in cognac, with plenty of ready-money capital at command, can obtain as good brandy from the makers as the most renowned dealers whose brand passes muster.

In his chapter on liqueurs and cordials Mr. Tovey does not sufficiently distinguish between liqueurs, ratafias, and elixirs. The name of liqueurs is, properly, only given to preparations composed of spirits of wine, brandy, sugar, and the extracts of certain substances more or less aromatic. The desired result is obtained either by distillation or by infusion. Infused liqueurs are called ratafias. Elixirs are certain wholesome or therapeutic liquors taken only by spoonfuls. Mr. Tovey, quoting from Beckman, says liqueurs were introduced into France in 1533 on the occasion of the marriage of Hen. II. This is an error. Ratafias are as old as the time of Louis XII., contemporary with Hen. VII., and elixirs were known before the time of Charles VII., contemporary with our Henry VI.

There are many particulars as to Maraschino which Mr. Tovey does not state. Before the first French Revolution the Senate of Venice kept the sale of this precious beverage in its own hands. Much more information might have been given on foreign liqueurs than is presented in this volume. He, however, gives a sufficiently full account of English cordials, including peppermint, rum, shrub, cherry brandy, wormwood bitters, &c.

His chapter on punch, too, is also a valuable one. He gives the receipts for the Regent's punch, for Benson Hill's, for the Christ Church punch, and also for his own punch, which we extract:—

Moisten with boiling water three or four knobs of sugar in a full-size tumbler; when the sugar is dissolved, add one wine-glass full of old rum, half a wine-glass of full-flavoured port or sherry, and half a wine-glass of best orange bitters. Fill the tumbler up with boiling water and stir together. Then drink—and repeat the operation as often as may be prudent.

After having tasted this beverage a second or third time the too happy bibber would, doubtless, be disposed to sing the first stave of one of the oldest songs in the Navy:—

"One day, as our parson was preaching as how we should never get drunk,  
I tipped him the can and he swigged it,  
And Nau swigged it, and Dan swigged it, and  
all of us swigged it;  
And, dash it! there's nothing like grog,  
Grog, grog,  
Dash it! there's nothing like grog."

The volume is pleasant and readable, and must become popular. V. K.

## LADIES OF THE CREATION.

*Woman and Her Era.* By Eliza W. Farnham. Two Volumes. (New York: Davis & Co.; London: Trübner & Co.)

THE idea of this work is the superiority of Woman over Man. It is not quite so new as the writer believed before a friend sent her an account of Cornelius Agrippa's treatise on the subject. But she was half through her task when she read that performance, and the reading it at all need be no impeachment of her originality, while, by her treatment, she has fairly made the subject her own.

A gorilla set to work to review the controversy concerning his species would have about as much chance of being impartial in the matter as the present writer, who, naturally, belonging to one of the limited number of sexes, may be supposed to have prejudices of his—well, or of her—own. With the simple question of Woman's Rights we should know how to deal. A man may gracefully concede, and a woman may as gracefully waive, a great many of the claims advanced. But Woman's Rights, in their ordinary meaning, the author treats with contempt. She respects them as earnest pioneers of progress; but, in the language of young ladies to rejected suitors, she "respects them only as friends"—she will not be wedded to their limited idea. She does the pioneering, indeed, for herself; and, it must be confessed, clears the way in a masterly manner to the new kingdom in which she has set up the feminine flag and proclaimed the sovereignty of her sex. The champion of Woman, she has thrown down the glove; and it will be taken up by many hands. In the meantime, the best service we can render to her and our readers is to tell the latter what she means and how she means it.

That the general views of the author are unorthodox and revolutionary is nothing more than must be expected. But, in reference thereto, a "judicious inactivity"—which Lord Stanley described the other day as the present policy of Conservatism—need not interfere with an examination of the arguments. These begin with "The Organic Argument," starting with the syllogism, "Life is exalted in proportion to its organic and functional complexity. Woman's organism is more complex, and her totality of function larger than those of any other being inhabiting the earth. Therefore, her position in the scale of life is the most exalted—the sovereign one." Sex is a grade of development, and the woman is the higher. Next comes "The Religious Argument," which, starting from the systems of Egypt, Greece, and Rome, proceeds to show that they were based upon the superiority of the female over the male. "The best, the purest, the noblest, the tenderest principles were made personal in feminine deities, as were also those of the extreme opposite—the most evil, the most vicious, the most baleful, dire, subtle, irresistible, secretly dreadful; while the middle ground of good and evil, the medium virtues and the vices of tyranny, revenge, slaughter, robbery, violence, common dishonesty, treachery, fraud, were generally masculine." That females are capable of the lowest depths of vice the writer considers the consequence of their higher natures; when they fall it is because men have corrupted them. That Woman should stand at the head of organic creation is proved by the fact that

she was the last created member of it, its crown and perfection—not a very novel idea, but in its place here. She stands, moreover, at the centre of both Dispensations which introduce our Christian system. In "The Æsthetic Argument" the author designs to show that Art, the truest of human expressions, because the purest reflection of Nature, has, unconscious of any truth but Nature's, always found its highest studies in Woman and womanly experiences. Also Poetry celebrates Woman as eminently her theme. If she honour Man, it is more his arts than himself; more his achievements, powers, schemes, disappointments, than his sentiments or interior self-hood. "The Historic Argument" sets forth how History, neglectful and cold as it necessarily is towards Woman while its grand themes are military and civil power, does, nevertheless, testify to the super-eminence of Woman in certain high qualities—such as self-sacrifice for noble ends, calmness in seasons of terror or death, nobleness in sympathy for the suffering, the feeble, and the helpless. "Popular sentiment and common observation" deals mainly with Love, "the most ennobling and purifying experience that man can know." In Love Man "universally, openly, and of his deepest conviction, declares her better, purer, more angelic than himself, and delights, during his greatest exaltation in this experience, to prove the genuineness of his appreciation of her by giving up some indulgence of which her refinement makes him ashamed; by studying, according to his real manliness and worth, how he can liken himself to her; and always it is by purification." Also, "society, acting from this sentiment of Woman, demands from her a personal purity which it does not demand from him," and "Woman herself reverences purity, both moral and physical, in her sex, and is shocked at its lack in women, as she is not in men of the same condition."

For the reasons of which the above is a brief outline, the writer comes to the conclusion that Man represents the material and physical-force part of creation, and Woman the spiritual element and moral power, connecting him with the Divine. No men are good, she tells us, except in so far as they approach to the characteristics of women; even in their appearance they are unsightly objects except when they have feminine attributes. Even these exceptions she appears to consider very scarce, for she denounces the sex generally as sensual and cruel, gross and criminal beyond all bounds. This, we suppose, is all fair in the way of argument; but it is rather hard hitting nevertheless, and it appears that there is no help for unfortunate Man until the "Illumination of Woman" takes place, when he will be raised to a noble nature. This will happen in a certain "good time coming," which is thus described. It will be the fifth era through which we shall have passed, and the first of civilization.

Fifth.—Civilization. Wants springing from the most exalted elements of the nature become the motives to action. Objective advantages, power, material refinements, elegancies, cease to be valued as ends, and are worthily and purely sought as means to the true end of Development into likeness of the Divine. Woman reverentially treated as the earthly representative of the Divine. Truer views of it, through acquaintance with her, becoming the property of Society. Life moulded theoretically and practically to the Idea of God. Aspiration towards the Divine Love and Purity, the honoured purpose of life, to which all other purposes become directly contributive. Law recognised as the sure basis of happiness. Obedience from pure Love and love of Harmony. Love dominating the human relations. Woman, its type and embodiment, the sovereign in them; the trusted leader in all the higher, interior, ascending movements. Elevation, purity, health, soundness, exalted powers, and fulness of vigour replace, under her rule, the degradation, corruption, disease, feebleness, and suffering prevalent under the more sensual masculine sovereignty. Methods based in harmony prevailing everywhere, not through submission, but from attraction to them. Action free, artistic, graceful, spontaneous;

fruitful of results whose exalted beauty and sweetness kindle in the soul only the desire to excel the Done by the possible higher perfection to be attained in the Undone. Love of the Beautiful, the Good, and the True (characteristic of the Feminine as distinguished from the admiration for Power, characteristic of the Masculine), cultivated and nourished in all persons, by all educational influences. Wealth valued, not as an individual possession, but as a social, universal means to these ends, and to the complete development, moral and intellectual, of which they are harmonious features. Standards of feeling and action, the possible good attainable for Society—not for the individual as striving against social good: the highest attainable expression of generosity, therefore, rather than of Self-Love. It need scarcely be said that this last stage lies before us; visible, as yet, to few eyes, but plainly visible to those few. And this will be the Era of Woman. Happiness the end of existence, by Truth as the road, and Love as the motive thereto. This is development into the likeness of God, who is the embodiment of the most perfect happiness that the finite mind can conceive, because He unites Perfect Love with Perfect Wisdom and Perfect Power.

The sphere of Woman in this happy state of things will be Home, and her relation to society that of "Artistic Maternity"—the meaning of which the author takes some pains to explain, but not with entire success. In any case it is a peaceful and womanly condition, and a harmless conclusion to somewhat alarming premises. Merely remarking that, its main purpose apart, the work has excellent qualities and contains some eloquent writing, we take our leave of this Lady of the Creation!

### THREE NOVELS.

*Blackfriars; or, the Monks of Old.* A Romantic Chronicle. Three Volumes. (Longman & Co.)

*Trevelyn Hold; or, Squire Trevelyn's Heir.* By the Author of "East Lynne," "Danesbury House," &c. Three Volumes. Second Edition. (Tinsley Brothers.)

*Catherine's Marriage.* A Novel. By Earnes Irving. Two Volumes. (Skeet.)

"THE monks of old" is a phrase which occurs so frequently in the pages of our author, and on which he dwells with so evident a pleasure, that we are tempted to fancy he must have been fascinated by it first in some song—probably a convivial one—and that the rich round voice of some jolly baritone must have so rung it into his mind that writing a book on the subject became inevitable. When he was once fairly committed to the idea, the working of it out may have led him naturally enough to devious explorations in fields ecclesiastical, archaeological, topographical, and historical—in short, to much reading. Not to mention state-papers and county histories, our author has consulted Bede, Groves, Fosbroke, Fox, Froude, Hallam, Mrs. Jameson, Maitland, and the ever useful Stow. But, in thus working himself into the spirit and body of the period, he seems to have somewhat impaired his power of intellectual digestion; and, in doubt whether to give us a book of history or of romance—a dissertation on mediæval architecture or on ecclesiastical ornament and costume—an analytical survey of the religious houses within the metropolis or a pæan in honour of "the monks of old," he has ended in producing a work of all these characters combined. Although the stoutness of the volumes may be monkishly characteristic, such an obesity in a three-volume novel is seldom seen at Mudie's. Not, however, with the cunning of a Victor Hugo has our author spread the varied feast, but upon the good, old-fashioned, straightforward principle of allotting so much solid matter to each subject. Neither are the individual parts always trustworthy: history and topography are frequently violated, and the anachronisms for a work so ambitious are not few. When Henry VIII., in spite of his bulk, was thrown in a wrestling-match on "the Field of the Cloth of Gold," his antagonist was a king, and the overthrow is not displeasing to us; but, when we find him, in the novel, unhorsed and tumbled in the

dust at one of his own tournaments by a young and unknown knight, we are offended, less from the unlikelihood of the thing than from the author's thrusting suggestively before the mind's eye the ignoble bulk of Falstaff instead of the royal massiveness of "Bluff King Hal." His natural son, too, Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond and Somerset, was a youth of brilliant parts and much promise, and only seventeen when he died; but in the novel we find him a full-grown libertine, under the name of Sir John Perrot. Stepney was never a "river-side village," but nestled round the same old church on Stebon-heath in King Henry's time—and far back in the Plantagenet days, for that matter—as it does now; only the heath now, instead of the blooming gorse, has broken out into a boundless contiguity of brick and mortar.

Our author tries hard to clothe his story in the quaint phraseology of the period—as, for instance, "Meseems thou altogether wrongest me, sweetest dulcibelle, and misdoubtest mine intent. The lightning of thy being, seraph queen, hath quickened anew mine heart. I do but seek thee now, most lustrous of thy sex, in all lawfulness, and would make thee my peerless wife before the world and all mankind. This, and this only, do I urge on thy acceptance, lady—naught else, by my troth, and as knighthood and honour be my meed." But, for all his care, he is continually falling into anachronisms of language, and sometimes makes his personages quote Shakespeare before "the bard of all time" was even dreamt of. He atones for this, however, by ringing the changes on any phrase or word which strikes him as euphonious or antique. "Monks of old" we have already alluded to. "Haught" is another example of the manner in which he dangles a word to death. We have "haught monk," "haught occasion," haught this, haught that, haught everything. And, when Spenser or Shakespeare fails to furnish a vocabulary, he falls back upon the Minerva press, or bursts forth occasionally in this transpontine fashion:—"The isles of light spell-hung each night in heaven's vault had faded away, and the fire-god of the ancient worshippers was mounting his blazing throne, when the booming of the great muffled bell from out the tower of chimes announced to the drowsy friars the coming of the hour of blood—to the condemned, her dirge-note." Sonorous phraseology is not confined to the text: we find even in the Preface, where authors generally speak quietly, the following paragraph, which, considering the light Froude and other writers have lately thrown on the central figure of the period, sounds very much like rant:—

The monstrous crimes of earlier ages may, it is thought, find mercy in consideration of the pollution and darkness of the moral atmosphere in which men lived and sinned. But, for all that, nothing can restrain us from execrating the crowned despot—the throned wretch, who at all times permitted his brutal passions to have full sway, who was at all seasons of his reign blind to the broad blaze of Christian civilization, and who trampled on his species and grew satiate with the best blood of patriotism and freedom. The ineffaceable blood spilt by the bloated tyrant Henry the Eighth still darkens Heaven and Earth with its everlasting testimony.

And what, then, is there of Romance in this "Romantic Chronicle"? Enough and to spare, good reader. Mistress Aveline More, the daughter of Sir Thomas More, and the heroine of the tale, is a creature who "shines like a sun-clad seraph" and is "the very archetype of sweetness and beauty." Her eyes are "wonderfully lustrous, filled by a strange fascination, and volcanic with unstirred passion, and yet the spark to kindle and brighten the clear blue liquid depths is absent"—"the thrice-blessed power of vision is wanting." Such beauty in such an age is a dangerous dower, and perils surround her on every hand. Sir John Perrot, an illegitimate son of the king, seeks to carry her off by violence, and almost succeeds; but a novice of the famous Order of the Knights

# THE READER.

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Hospitallars of St. John, "tall, strongly-made, and athletic, and possessed of a form and visage which would have riveted the admiration of a painter or a sculptor, with long black hair and a countenance full of fiery spirit and blooming with health," rushes to the rescue. This "ideal of the youthful Achilles" is Richard Plantagenet, the grandson of Richard III., and the hero of the romance. Dan Theodulph, the sub-prior of the Monastery of Blackfriars, a very sinister but accomplished personage, wishes also to gain absolute control over the beautiful Aveline. His "grey, searching eye possesses an unpleasant glare, as of some sombre, unnatural fire, and though, upon the whole, the face is well-looking, yet it exhibits very palpably the saturnine fury of cloistral passion." Our readers can easily imagine how this monk of the M. G. Lewis type will scheme and plot when told that he is father-confessor to the innocent Aveline. But, besides protectors in her father and in her Plantagenet lover, she has a guardian angel in Elizabeth Barton, the famous "Maid of Kent," who, having had bitter experience of the monk's villainy, is able to thwart him and to preserve the heroine. There are seizures and rescuings; grand tournaments and deadly combats; midnight meetings, masses, and murders; gloomy vaults and mysterious cloistral recesses; false marriages and solemn divorces; kings, knights, and courtiers; cardinals, monks, magicians, and villains. Henry VIII. and Queen Catherine, Wolsey, Cromwell, and More—all move across the stage with more or less distinctness, and the curtain at last falls satisfactorily.

The author's great mistake lies in his attempting to blend in so crude a manner things so different in their nature; and, although he has "devoted two volumes out of the three to the especial delectation of those readers who will open them only for the sake of the romance," a man with so much love for monastic antiquities would have done much better by throwing his extensive knowledge into a separate form. The author has done himself scant justice in attempting to do what requires a Scott or a Hugo to do successfully.

From the "days of old," and the "haught monks" thereof, let us turn to our own time, and to such prosaic human nature as lives, schemes, and suffers under our own eyes, and to which the pen of a ready writer can give completeness and interest. "Trevlyn Hold" is the name of a fine old country estate down in the Northern mining district, and "Squire Trevlyn's heir" occasions the story. Mrs. Wood introduces us to two boys, George Ryle and Cris Chattaway. The former is open, manly and chivalric, and the latter sneaking, selfish, and cruel: and in this case the boys are fathers to the men. George's mother is dead, and Mr. Ryle, his father, has taken for his second wife the eldest Miss Trevlyn of Trevlyn Hold, and is regarded as a gentleman farmer; for the land, though now belonging to the Trevlyn estate, was once the property of the Ryles. Cris Chattaway's mother is also a Trevlyn, and to her husband, James Chattaway, the old squire had willed the estate, believing his second son, who was abroad, had died without male issue. The eldest son had been dead some time. An heir, however, was born to this second son; but the knowledge of it was kept from the squire, and, on his death, Chattaway became lord and master of Trevlyn Hold. He received and sheltered the infant children of his wife's brother when they came to England; but they grew up in his family as mere dependents, and whatever he could do to render their position bitter and humiliating he did. Secure in the estate by the will, this cold-blooded and avaricious man tried, as hard as such a nature would allow, to gain the good-will of the surrounding gentry; but in vain. They would call his wife "the Lady of Trevlyn Hold," because she was the old squire's daughter; but they would never call him "squire"—only plain

"Mr. Chattaway;" and even the peasantry, having an eye to the two orphans whom he treated so badly, and whose right to the estate they thought was indefeasable, regarded him as a tyrannical upstart. His wife was the reverse of all this; and, by her gentle manner and endearing ways, she won the hearts of everybody. Of the impetuosity of the Trevlyns she had nothing, and the consequence was that she was a cipher in her own house, and her younger unmarried sister and Chattaway ruled everything. This quiet, timid, melancholy, but loving creature was the only one who, at considerable risk to herself, made life bearable to the two orphans.

Years roll on, and George Ryle, now managing the farm which the accidental death of his father by Chattaway's bull had left in an involved state, owing chiefly to a bond which Chattaway should have destroyed on the death of the old squire, becomes a young fellow of some mark in the country. He had cleared off all the debts Chattaway said was owing, earned golden opinions from everybody, and, on his occasional visits to Trevlyn Hold, Chattaway's own daughter looks on him with favour. Cris has also come to man's estate, and, taking the key from his father, domineers over his poor consumptive cousin Rupert Trevlyn, and otherwise leads the life outwardly of a gay scamp and inwardly of a selfish cur. Rupert's sister acts as governess to the family, and it is to her that the stout-hearted George pays his visits, although conceit blinds the eyes of her otherwise clear-sighted cousin, Miss Chattaway, to the fact. Old Chattaway all this time is the victim of a nameless fear, which the occasional forebodings of his meek but melancholy wife serve only to increase. He knows he cannot lose the estate, for his lawyers in London tell him nothing can upset the will, and yet he entertains a vague notion that some day he may be unseated. This renders him irritable and sometimes absent; and in a rash moment he horse-whips poor Rupert one night in the rick-yard. What comes of this and of "Squire Trevlyn's heir" our readers must go to Mrs. Wood's volumes to learn. We have read them with unabated interest from beginning to end. Some of the country scenes are most truthfully realized, and the characters, both high and low, are as individual and finely modelled as we could wish. The three Trevlyn sisters are particularly good, and the consumptive boy Rupert, who suffered so sadly for indulging the Trevlyn temper only for a moment, is a character that would make an ordinary novel. Chattaway and his son are both of them men one has known; and George Ryle is the noble sort of fellow that comes into the world for the express purpose of making such knowledge bearable. Some of the humbler characters, too, are excellent. We can in all confidence congratulate Mrs. Wood on a literary success which, but for her occasional slips in the way of preachment or reflection, would have been artistically complete.

Of "Catherine's Marriage" we cannot say much in praise. There is a certain power about it; but its incidents are sensational, and its style exaggerated. Here are three short extracts, as specimens of what is to be found in the book:—

Mr. Ingestre pitched her towards me with an oath.

"Cle, my lass! you never go hunting again; mind that."

"What on earth is this for?" cried the frightened girl. "Papa, what is this for?"

"It means that I will not have my daughter the associate of my grooms, nor cut jests with the raff of a hunting-field. You shall be a lady, Cle, and not—"

Ross's hand was up, and a lightning blow descended on his father's mouth. A horrible silence for one second; they each sprang, and then were grappling like two fierce beasts together. . . .

Among the reeds and grass, turned upwards to the sky, was a human face; its deadly whiteness shone out most horribly amid the dark mass of tangled stems and roots in which it lay. Ingestre

saw the awful sight, and, with a dismal yell, leaped the gulf dividing him from it, and alighted knee-deep in water and mud, close to the spot near which it reposed, calmly staring at the dark sky; for the eyes were wide open, and the mouth filled with slime and water. And there he stood, or rather waded, with his lantern turned full on that face. . . .

A midnight ride; a graceless sinner abroad, when God spoke in his own language above the earth—spoke in the wind—spoke in the beating rain, and in the darkness of that tempestuous sky. Could that man ride out amid the voices of that night and not listen to them?—lived the life he had lived, and not hear it recorded by them?—sinned as he had sinned, and yet not be awed by them?

If the author will quiet down, and write simply of things as he sees them, he will do something better than his present book, we are sure.

## PETERSBURG AND WARSAW.

*Petersburg and Warsaw: Scenes witnessed during a Residence in Poland and Russia in 1863-4.* By Augustus P. O'Brien. (Bentley.)

OF all oppressed nationalities Poland has, in these islands, met with the largest amount of sympathy. We all resent the crime of the original partition, weep over the misfortunes of Kosciuszko and his compatriots, grow indignant at the ingratitude which so basely requited the services rendered to Europe by the renowned John Sobieski, and earnestly desire that Poland—free, independent, and satisfied—may once more take her place amongst the peoples of the Continent. Hence the intense interest of the British people in the success of the recent Polish insurrection, the earnest remonstrances with Russia made by our present Government, and the stirring speeches made in our House of Commons. Did it rest with us to make Poland "great, glorious, and free," how speedily and heartily would the task be accomplished! But what military aid can we isolated islanders render to a country like Poland?

If it be true that "who would be free, themselves must strike the blow," the Poles will not complain of the attitude maintained by England during their recent struggle, though that struggle had been, as we in this country believed, a really national one. We were led to understand that the late insurrection was a spontaneous uprising of a whole people goaded to desperation by intolerable oppression. As such it commanded our warmest sympathies. This view of it, however, does not accord with the experience and observation of the author of "Petersburg and Warsaw." Mr. O'Brien says—

If the true history of the late insurrection in Poland were thoroughly understood in England, public opinion would soon undergo a very great change. Not that sympathy for Poland would become less, but indignation would be directed against those who, to serve their own ends, trafficked in the patriotism of the Poles, and caused a profitless expenditure of blood.

Resolved to see and judge for himself as to the real state of things in Poland, Mr. O'Brien, in the August of last year, left Petersburg for Wilna, the capital of Lithuania. For the benefit of future travellers he mentions that the journey of not more than 300 English miles occupied above twenty hours; that his fare, first class, was £3. 3s., besides eight shillings for his portmanteau and travelling-bag. "The accommodation at all the stations was very bad, and the prices for refreshment absurdly high." At Wilna he found excellent quarters in the Hôtel de l'Europe, which he pronounces superior to any of the Petersburg hotels, "with the single exception of Miss Benson's on the English Quay." He obtained a comfortable room for three shillings a night, and dined at the *table d'hôte* for about two shillings. He lost no time in waiting upon General Mouravieff, to whom he carried letters of introduction; and at once received permission to visit the prisons, hospitals, courts of justice, and any other public institution he might wish to inspect. "Here," said the General, "there is no

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mystery, no concealment; everything is done openly and in the face of day." In reply to our author's remark that reports of cruelties practised by the Russian authorities had led the governments of Western Europe to send remonstrances to Petersburg, he sternly refused to acknowledge the right of any foreign government to interfere in the internal administration of the Russian empire. With his army of 120,000 men he was prepared to hold Lithuania against any foreign power whatsoever; but, for the pacification of the province, nothing more was required than a good administration. To secure this he had dismissed all the Poles in government employ, and replaced them by Russians. Now his army was quite idle, he was able to spare troops to assist in suppressing insurrection in the kingdom. Such was the redoubtable Mouravieff's view of his position and its duties.

Mr. O'Brien, accompanied by Colonel de Lebecheff, who had been on intimate terms with the late Sir Joshua Jebb, drove to the monastery of St. Jacob, beautifully situated at a short distance from Wilna, which had been fitted up as an hospital for the sick and wounded insurgents. Here he found the arrangements perfect, embracing every requisite for health and cleanliness. Each patient was furnished by the authorities with a shirt, white canvas trousers, slippers, and loose dressing-gown of coarse striped linen. The character of the medical treatment might be inferred from the convalescent state of one of the wounded insurgents, a lad of sixteen, who had received no less than seventeen bayonet-stabs! All the patients stated that their food was good and abundant, and that they were kindly treated. Our author next visited the "Convent of the Missionaries, which had been fitted up as a prison for three hundred men and sixty women." Here he conversed freely with the prisoners, being permitted when he chose to take them apart and interrogate them out of earshot of the officers of the prison. In no case did his inquiries elicit any serious complaint of ill-treatment. The ladies, of whom he found thirty of different ages imprisoned in one very large room, with one voice denied that any of them, or any of their friends or acquaintances, had been struck, beaten, or in any way outraged by the Russian authorities, and seemed surprised that he should ask such a question. Our author's investigations in Warsaw were attended by like results. He visited the citadel and the hospitals, and made every possible inquiry, but no case of cruelty, outrage, or torture came to his knowledge. The universal testimony of the prisoners was that they received every indulgence compatible with imprisonment, and of the sick and wounded that they were well cared for.

The late insurrection our author holds to have been entirely the work of the "Cosmopolitan revolutionists," as he calls them—an opinion sufficiently absurd. There is much in the work of the kind of politics which this opinion will suggest; but it contains interesting information. In particular, the revelations made some time ago by Mrs. Grant Duff seem now fully confirmed by Mr. O'Brien. They make us think more hopefully of our common humanity. We are glad to know that Russians are not monsters, but men not much different from Englishmen.

### THE STREAM OF LIFE ON OUR GLOBE.

*The Stream of Life on our Globe. Its Archives, Traditions, and Laws, as Revealed by Modern Discoveries in Geology and Palaeontology. A Sketch in Untechnical Language of the Beginning and Growth of Life, and the Physiological Laws which Govern its Progress and Operations.* By J. L. Milton, M.R.C.S. (Hardwicke.)

TO trace the stream of life on our globe from its first clouded beginning down to the present time, when its clearer course is watched by thousands of keen observers, trained to their work by scientific discipline,

and to give an outline of this mighty movement in language understood by men of average intelligence, is the aim of Mr. Milton's publication. The work opens with an account of England before the dawn of history—the time of the Azoic rocks—and, giving a rapid sketch of the various geological periods which our globe has undergone, lingers with evident fondness on the first dwellers upon earth—those pre-historic men about whom there has been of late such long and angry discussion amongst us. The controversy which arose out of the discoveries of M. Boucher de Perthes, scattered as it is over innumerable publications, is stated with clearness, conciseness, and even humour; and those who wish to know all that has been said and done about the famous fossil jawbone of Moulin-Quignon should peruse the pages our author devotes to it. There is something extremely fascinating in uplifting the veil which so long has hung over the primitive history of man; and we feel almost as great satisfaction in speculating on the haunts of the old savage as we do in thinking of the state of the world thousands of years hence, when many things of which we only see the germs may have become fully developed. Mr. Milton has endeavoured to satisfy this feeling. He thus describes our worthy ancestors, or, we should rather say, those who had possession of the British soil before we had:—

As to the old English troglodyte, the man of the caves, he must have lived in a state equally savage, hardly a stage above the beasts of the field, and much as the African earthman now lives; for not a scrap of clothing—not the poorest domestic utensil has been found. The cave was his lair at night, his workshop and kitchen by day. There he hammered away at his flint weapons or shaped his bone-tipped javelins ere he sallied out to seek his prey; and, when he returned with what he had trapped or slain, the cave was the scene of the savage family supper. When all—sire, dam, and cubs—had stilled their hunger, the shells of the oysters and periwinkles, and the bones and horns of the bear and deer, were thrown aside, while what was left of some huge beast was stored rudely away; after which all herded together, to pass the time in sleep and listlessness till hunger once more called them forth to the chase. As he grew more advanced he probably took to cooking; for some recent discoveries show that at an early period he was very likely as far advanced as the South Sea Islanders, and had some ideas of fortification which almost connect his era with the times of the old Pictish forts—an improvement which seems happily to have been diffused through the neighbouring countries. At the meeting of the Archaeological Institute, on the 3rd of July, 1863, Sir J. Clarke Jervoise, M.P., gave an account of extensive vestiges of the ancient forest of Bere, near his property in Hampshire. He exhibited a plan of a remarkable fortified site—a camp, surrounded by concentric circular trenches, evidently of a very early period—and described certain singular beds of burnt flints, locally known as *milk stones*, from the colour of the calcined surface. They lay in large quantities in the clay. Sir J. Jervoise thought it possible that these flints might have been used, when heated, for some purposes of cookery, in like manner as the South Sea Islanders are said to have heated water in gourds, or wooden vessels, by means of heated stones thrown into them. Mr. Albert Way described the traces of a similar culinary expedient in very primitive times, noticed by him in the excavation of certain singular dwellings on the estates of the Hon. W. O. Stanley, near Holyhead.

Mr. Milton ought to have said, "as the South Sea Islanders heat water in gourds and wooden vessels by means of heated stones thrown into them;" for the process is still going on in the Caroline, Fijian, and Society Islands. It was also noticed by Captain Maine in British Columbia; and Mr. Bollaert tells us that, in the Peruvian highlands, his dinner was kept warm by heated pebbles thrown into it. The kitchen has its ages of stone, bronze, and iron, as well as the other parts of man's household; and we wonder that, considering so much has been written about the primitive phases through which mankind has passed, this department, to the present generation of

such pre-eminent importance, should have received, comparatively speaking, so little consideration. Man, probably at a very early age, found out that cold dinners were not desirable, and hence resorted to roasting his food before the fire, or baking it on heated stones. The introduction of the boiling process marks a stage in civilization. For the construction of vessels, even such wooden vessels as are still in use for that purpose amongst savage nations, could not be wrought without some implements; and, finally, to make pottery—i.e., to mould certain kinds of clay, drying the vessels up to a certain point in the open air, and then baking, to say nothing of glazing them (a process unknown to many savages)—is really so vast a step in advance that the mind naturally inquires how such a discovery could possibly be made. After the first plate of soup had been produced, the art of cookery had surmounted the greatest of its peculiar difficulties.

A succeeding chapter of Mr. Milton's suggestive work introduces us to the first builders, and among them to the lake-dwellers of Switzerland.

Tradition tells of few scenes more interesting than those called up by thinking of this simple fisher-people in their little wave-girt homes—a scene on which the genius of Homer might have dwelt with fondness. Little dwarf children taken out in times of peace to gather wild berries and weave flower-chains in meadows buried for ages, watching the jumping squirrel and the bright-eyed field-mouse, while the little goat-horned sheep clambered up the rocks or browsed in the ancient fields, or listening with awe to the growling of the great bears or the lowing of the huge dun oxen! By-and-by the babies are grown to dwarf darlings in quaintly-fashioned robes, and sit demurely ranged at work under the eye of their elders,

"The spinsters and the knitters in the sun,  
And the free maids that weave their thread with bones,"

knotting their curious flax garments first with their fingers, then with quaint bone needles and bodkins, and, as arts improved, with the rude spindle; while the men fashioned their deadly fireballs or simple pottery, shaping the coarse dark clay into jars as large as the old Roman wine vases, such as the Hindoo has used from remotest time, or chipped their arrow-heads of flint and crystal, or edged their bone daggers and their serpentine hatchets, or sallied out to hunt for fish. By-and-by they are dwarf matrons, grave with household cares—"on hospitable thoughts intent," or thinking about getting off their young folks; and dwarf men of business and warriors, changing by-and-by into little elders solemnly meting out justice, and then little old men and women bent with pains and aches, sitting in the sunshine and chirping like grasshoppers, "τὴν γῆν ἐλπίσιν," thinking often as little as the children sprawling about them how soon they are to be little corpses lying in the depths of the old lakes. Or when some mighty warrior or virtuous father of the state passed away to the land of spirits, the honoured remains were solemnly borne, with all the mournful pomp of their simple faith, to the rude but vast stone tomb and buried, for the people of the stone age had a great respect for the dead; and, when they were laid in their last resting-place, the arms were crossed upon the breast and the chin bent down upon the knees: as man lies ere he enters upon this scene, so he should lie, they thought, when he re-entered the great womb of Nature. Then they laid his arms and the offerings for the dead, food and trinkets, beside him; and, that done, the great stones were raised like a chamber over the body, and above all was piled the vast funeral mound of earth.

And thus they acted their parts in the pilgrimage of life till the strong hand of the spoiler wasted their strength, and internal decay proclaimed to their era that their hour had come, and their numbers began to thin and their star to wane by a process as sure and steady as that which changes the man into the lean pantaloon. As they passed away, the wheel of time with each silent turn blotted out some trace that former years had spared, till all slept beneath the waters of the Swiss lakes in one common oblivion.

We are not yet prepared, upon the evidence submitted, to endorse the opinion that the ancient lake-dwellers of Switzerland were pigmies, like the Andaman islanders of the present day. In many parts of the world houses were and are built upon piles driven into the water of sea, lake,

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or river, and a closer examination of their peculiarities would, in our opinion, throw considerable light upon the ancient Helvetic lake-dwellers. Houses upon piles were met with in Venezuela by the Spanish Conquistadores, and on the west coast of the South American continent they are to be found at the present day; the exact line where they cease has been stated in Seemann's "Narrative of H.M.S. *Herald*." Again, they are to be seen in the Pacific, in Borneo, New Guinea, and the Fijis—possibly also in other parts inhabited by the Papuan race. The mode in which they are used in the Fijis throws a possible sidelight upon the supposed pigmies of Switzerland. All the pile-buildings of those islands, whether placed in the sea, the river, or the lake, are solely occupied by the children. All villages that are near water have one or more of these houses, or "bures," as they are termed, for their boys, grown-up people never visiting them. They are erected by the adults, and connected with the shore by long trunks of trees. When they are getting old, new ones are erected—seldom in the same spot, because nobody would take the trouble to destroy the ruins first; and thus sea and lake shores or river-beds have gradually become filled with remnants of piles which, to anybody not knowing the true history, would be mistaken for remnants of large villages. The Christian missionaries having set their face against the use made of these houses, and advocating the propriety of having all the children under the parental roof, the lake, sea, and river dwellers of Fiji will soon have become as much a matter of history as those of ancient Switzerland.

In his first chapters our author followed pretty closely the task set himself—that of interpreting in popular language the results achieved by eminent men of science. In his fifth—"The First Wanderers on Earth"—he somewhat changes his course, and sets up several pet notions of his own, often not supported by sufficient evidence, and in many instances diametrically opposed to opinions hitherto considered sound. The tone of special pleading in popular books we have always regarded as an abuse. An author who wishes to give the lay community a fair notion of what is going on in the scientific world should be as impartial as a judge, state both sides of a question, and wind up in a temperate manner. As we go on the author more and more asserts himself, and his language gets unbecomingly flippant and even abusive. When he comes to discuss the first language he is hard upon Max Müller, "who speaks repeatedly of the science of language; but how he proves it to be a science, or, indeed, what he proves it to be at all, passes" the author's comprehension. The Oxford Professor is accused of "carrying us on to a height where we expect to behold the source of language revealed to view, as the traveller is carried by his guide to the source of some sacred river, and then he disappears: just as we think we are getting to a point where we must be told the grand mystery of speech our light vanishes like a will-o'-the-wisp, and we find ourselves deep in all the mysteries of the classification tongues." Oh! Mr. Max Müller, why did you so disappoint your readers? Was it dignified in an Oxford Professor to leave off just as a popular serial writer would do at the exciting moment with the stereotyped information, "To be continued in our next"? Why did you not anticipate the discoveries in philological science of the next fifty years?

Professor Max Müller may consider himself lucky in being let off so cheap; for, in the succeeding chapter, on the first alphabet, some of the most eminent of his countrymen are handled much more roughly, and several pages are devoted to a volley of abuse of all that is German, quite appropriate in some violent political paper, but sadly out of place in a work professing to introduce us to the pacific regions which Science claims as peculiarly her own. Whilst that ingenious skin collector, Du Chaillu, about whose merits public opinion is so much divided, is taken

under Mr. Milton's protecting wing, men like Grotefend, who laboured years to decipher the cuneatic writings, are rated like pick-pockets. Humboldt's admiration for Goethe, whom he could well appreciate, both as a natural philosopher, a poet, and writer, is held up to ridicule; whilst Schiller and Goethe's greatest works are sneered at as if they were so many productions of a penny-a-liner. Humboldt, as a profound thinker, might well be excused in admiring a man like Goethe, who could give to the world "The Metamorphosis of Plants" (of which, by-the-by, the first correct English translation has been published within the twelve months by Mr. Hardwicke). It was one of the greatest advances which Botany during the last two centuries had made. In criticizing the labours of those who have gone before us in the field of inquiry we should not forget that, even if they were utterly mistaken in the direction they followed, we profit by it in no slight degree. Groping in the dark, they followed the direction which appeared to them most likely to lead to satisfactory results; and we should probably have taken the same if they had not, by their failure, pushed us, as it were, into the right road. Even if Forster should be right in his interpretation of the cuneatic writings, Grotefend will not have laboured in vain.

In dealing with the "Difficulty of Defining a Species" our author dissects the Darwinian theory, and quotes with good effect the assertion of Agassiz that no botanist has yet found a plant in a transition state. He then dwells upon the Laws of Life, Life in the Blood and in the Nerves, and on bodily and mental giants. The chapter on men of genius is a collection of many curious facts which go far to prove that such men are seldom happy in the choice of their wives, have no or but a few children, and that their children do not become eminent. Heyfelder of St. Petersburg showed some years ago that it was but a popular fallacy to suppose that children of great men never become eminent; and we think many men of genius may be pointed out who have lived happily with their wives and have left a numerous family.

It somewhat spoils the unity of the book that the last two chapters are devoted to Life in the Waters and Life in the Stars. About the first our knowledge is derived from actual observation; but all we know of life in the stars may be summed up in the unanswerable questions, Why should the stars not be inhabited? and Is it likely, when we see the whole of our globe teeming with living organisms, that the stars should be without somewhat similar beings?

As the author had to travel over a great space of ground and discuss a vast variety of subjects, a few slips of the pen may be excused. He speaks of the *Sigillarias* and *Stigmarias* as if palaeontologists like Binney and Goeppert had not satisfactorily shown that they were but root and stem of the same plants. Professor Heer, the eminent Swiss *savant*, is called "His." The last descendant of the Mexican Emperor Montezuma is stated to be a Peruvian lady, though several male descendants still live in Mexico. Jaeger and Grotefend are raised to the rank of professors; and the so-called Maltese crosses seen on Peruvian pottery are still thought sufficiently important to be mentioned, though Markham has shown them to have no meaning. But these and several other shortcomings we gladly overlook. On the whole, the work is sufficiently suggestive to be read with interest and profit by those who are not acquainted, from scientific sources, with the numerous subjects it embraces. Though differing from the author on many points, we have been pleased with much that he has to say; and, in giving him a few hard hits when he seemed to overstep the boundaries of good taste, we bear in mind that he had just been attacking some of those mental giants about whom he has furnished such sample statistics, and that he had probably not yet taken off the armour he wore in the encounter.

## CHRONICLE OF HYDE ABBEY.

*Chapters of the Biographical History of the French Academy; with an Appendix relating to the Unpublished Monastic Chronicle entitled "Liber de Hida." By Edward Edwards. (Trübner & Co.)*

THE title of the book is a riddle. What possibly can a foundation of Louis XIV. have in common with a foundation of Alfred the Great? Yet there is no preface to solve the riddle, or explain the mystery. The word *appendix*, which misleads at first, must help us out of the difficulty. Instead of being a supplement, as one would naturally suppose, by way of illustration or further elucidation of that which precedes it, in this case the word simply means something appended; and the account of the discovery of the long lost "Liber de Hida," an important monkish chronicle of English history, compiled in the fifteenth century, is, but for the circumstance of its forming the second half of the volume, a perfectly distinct and independent work. It is this portion of the book to which we shall confine our remarks, because, in consequence of the publication of the fourth volume of Mr. Stevenson's "Church Historians of England," in which he included a copy of Stow's transcript of part of the "Liber de Hida," from the Lansdowne MS. in the British Museum, considerable interest attaches itself to Mr. Edwards's discovery of the original manuscript, in its entirety, in the library of the Earl of Macclesfield, at Shirburn Castle, in Oxfordshire, in 1861.

The book itself probably passed, upon the grant of the lands and buildings of Hyde Abbey at Winchester to Winchester College, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, into the College library. This conjecture is based upon the fact that, but a few years ago, in an old chest in the Muniment Room of the College were discovered most of the original charters of grants from Anglo-Saxon and Norman kings, which are set forth at length in the "Liber de Hida;" and we recommend Mr. Edwards, before he publishes the entire text as promised, to place himself in communication with the College authorities.

Stow's transcript is at best but imperfect, containing only about one-third of the whole; besides which, the MS., having been transcribed on scraps of paper in a cramped hand, is in many places quite unintelligible. To make matters worse, the Museum binder has intermingled the leaves in a most confused manner, so that Mr. Stevenson's text is fragmentary, and anything but trustworthy. In speaking of Stow's transcript Mr. Thomas Duffus Hardy says:—"The Book of Hyde is a reconstruction of earlier materials, compiled within the monastery, and thus contains details, especially respecting Alfred, its founder, not elsewhere to be met with." He adds:—"It contains citations of authors whose works have perished, and who are known only by this MS. and by the 'Chronicle of Thomas Rudborne,' given by Wharton in the first volume of his 'Anglia Sacra.'"

Bale, Pits, and Vossius seem to have confounded the chronicle of Rudborne with the "Liber de Hida," and call Rudborne a monk of Hyde Abbey; but, as Wharton shows, from the internal evidence of Rudborne's "Historia Major," he belonged to the convent of St. Swithin at Winchester. Pits was a Wykehamist, and probably may have had access to the original; but, as he compiled his four folio volumes of British History, of which only that "De Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus" has been printed, during his twelve years' exile at Verdun, he had often to trust to memory where documents failed him. When he died he left orders that his three unpublished volumes should be buried with him; but, according to Anthony Wood, such was not the case, and they are still preserved in manuscript amongst the muniments of Liverdun, where he died in 1616. Harpsfeld, who was also a Wykehamist, quotes the "Liber de Hida," sometimes as "Annales Novi Cœnobii Wintonensis," and sometimes as "Annales Wintonenses." Alford, in his "Annales Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ,"

frequently refers to it. Its importance is thus sufficiently attested. At the end of his unfinished transcript Stow adds: "Memorandum, that there be in the Booke of Hyde, in greate and large parchment writen, dyvars of the things before writen, and many other testaments of certeyn Saxon kings, which be writen in bastard Saxon, and translated into Latyn and Englysshe."

The manuscript at Shirburn Castle is "on vellum, of large folio size, 17½ inches by 11½ inches, written in double columns; has, on some pages, richly illuminated borders and initial letters; and extends to 78 pages, or 156 columns, with 58 lines to each column. It breaks off in the middle of a sentence, and indeed of a word; but, from the circumstance that on the later pages the initials and other embellishments are sometimes only sketched in outline, and sometimes not even sketched, but only indicated by the pen, it seems probable that the MS. was never completed by the scribe."

Mr. Stevenson, having only Stow's fragment before him, says "the Book of Hyde in many respects corresponds closely with Asser's 'Life of King Alfred';" upon which Mr. Edwards rejoins that "this remark must be taken in a very limited sense as applied to the entire work, and that, whatever the relevancy it may have as regards chapters twelve and thirteen, it has no bearing whatever on the other twenty-five chapters." In proof of this he then gives twenty pages, printed in parallel columns, from Asser, from the Saxon Chronicle, and from the Book of Hyde, and also the text of King Alfred's will, in Anglo-Saxon and in Middle English, from the latter—which is the more curious because, failing, notwithstanding all his researches, to obtain access to MS. authority for the will, Mr. Kemble was fain to content himself by reprinting Manning's text, published in 1788. The other wills given in the chartulary appended to the Book of Hyde are those of Bishop Elfsige, King Edred, Athelwold, an officer of King Ethelred II., and Athelmar, one of his generals. These are all given in Latin, in Anglo-Saxon, and in Middle English.

We believe we may safely hazard the conjecture that the compiler of the Book of Hyde had access to the library of Winchester College. In that library are two copies of Ralph Higden's "Polycricon"—a book largely quoted by the writer—one of which, the gift of the founder, has a breviary of the chronicles of the kings of England prefixed, ending with the coronation of King Richard II., and also a continuation of Higden added, up to the same date—"ad hodiernum diem," writes the scribe. In the former portion the Anglo-Saxon period differs in some particulars from the Saxon Chronicle.

On a future occasion we may probably revert to the isolated chapters of the biographical history of the French Institute, which form the first half of Mr. Edwards's volume. On the present we have purposely confined our remarks to the discovery of the long-lost Book of Hyde; and, trusting to the correctness of Stow's account of it, that it is "an auncyent booke conteynynge the orygy-nalls and increase of that howse with the notable thyngs that hapned there," we look forward with much curiosity to the appearance of the entire text under Mr. Edwards's editorial care.

## NOTICES.

*The Naturalist on the River Amazons.* By Henry Walter Bates. Second (One Volume) Edition. With Map and Illustrations. (Murray.)—This is an old friend with a new face; and we are delighted to think that a new edition of this altogether charming book of travel—one of the most charming we have ever read—has been prepared for a larger circle than that contemplated in the first edition, which is now out of print. We have little to add to our former criticism, in which we took occasion to point out the great value of the scientific observations made by Mr. Bates, who ranks high amongst our traveller-naturalists, and the interesting manner in which his travels and adventures are narrated—so that all along one has

an interest in every butterfly he sees and every strange bird's-note he hears. In the present volume the more strictly scientific portions are condensed, in order that the personal narrative may be "left entire, together with those descriptive details likely to interest all classes, young and old, relating to the great river itself and the wonderful country through which it flows." We must also add that all, or nearly all, the illustrations of the first edition are preserved; and this is the more important as Mr. Bates's are not the mere fancy sketches we are too much accustomed to find in books of travel. Here is a sample, taken at random, of the subjects and style of our author's book:—"The Indians play a conspicuous part in the amusements at St. John's Eve, and at one or two other holidays which happen about that time of the year—the end of June. In some of the sports the Portuguese element is visible, in others the Indian; but it must be recollected that masquerading, recitative singing, and so forth, are common originally to both peoples. A large number of men and boys disguise themselves to represent different grotesque figures, animals or persons. Two or three dress themselves up as giants with the help of a tall framework. One enacts the part of the Cyprip, a kind of sylvan deity similar to the Curupira which I have before mentioned. The belief in this being seems to be common to all the tribes of the Tupi stock. According to the figure they dressed up at Ega, he is a bulky, misshapen monster, with red skin and long shaggy red hair hanging half way down his back. They believe that he has subterranean campos and hunting-grounds in the forest, well stocked with pacas and deer. He is not at all an object of worship nor of fear, except to children, being considered merely as a kind of hobgoblin. Most of the masquers make themselves up as animals—bulls, deer, magoary storks, jaguars, and so forth—with the aid of light frameworks, covered with old cloth dyed or painted, and shaped according to the object represented. Some of the imitations which I saw were capital. One ingenious fellow arranged an old piece of canvas in the form of a tapir, placed himself under it, and crawled about on all fours. He constructed an elastic nose to resemble that of the tapir, and made, before the doors of the principal residents, such a good imitation of the beast grazing that peals of laughter greeted him wherever he went. Another man walked about solitarily, masked as a jabirú crane (a large animal, standing about four feet high), and mimicked the gait and habits of the bird uncommonly well. One year an Indian lad imitated me, to the infinite amusement of the townsfolk. He came the previous day to borrow of me an old blouse and straw hat. I felt rather taken in when I saw him, on the night of the performance, rigged out as an entomologist, with an insect net, hunting bag, and pincushion. To make the imitation complete, he had borrowed the frame of an old pair of spectacles, and went about with it straddled over his nose." As remarked by our author in the preface to this edition, signs are not wanting that the fertile valley traversed by the Amazons will soon become of higher importance to the world's commerce than it is at present. It is something to possess a river navigable to a distance of 2200 miles from its mouth; and, indeed, Peruvian vessels have sailed from the Andes to the Atlantic. The probability suggested by Mr. Bates of a general curiosity in England to know more of this neglected country should be a *raison de plus* why his book should be read. Certain it is that all who take it up will be as charmed with it as we have been.

*Ninon de Lenclos et les Précieuses de la Place Royale.* Par M. Capefigue. (Paris: Amyot.)—UNDER the title of "Reines de la Main Gauche" and "Reines de la Main Droite," M. Capefigue has lately been giving us a series of little volumes on several queens, lawful and unlawful. What right Ninon de Lenclos has to figure among the latter we do not know, as she was merely a distinguished courtesan of the time of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV., but not the mistress of either of those monarchs. We do not either recommend this volume to any one desiring to obtain a history of her career. If M. Capefigue started with the intention of saying as little about her as possible he has been wonderfully successful. But in that case there does not seem to have been any special reason for placing her name on the title-page. The book is a collection of gossip and rather unconnected scraps of history, with here and there a not very valuable general remark. We don't ourselves recognise "the old fool" as the epithet that most graphically describes Henry IV.; and something more, perhaps, might be said of Sully than that he was "sour and grasping." M.

Capefigue is fond of having a fling at the way in which history is now written. We do not recognise his own method as an improvement.

*God's Word and Man's Heart: the Gospel the Key to the Problems of Man's Moral Nature.* Sermons preached before the University of Oxford. By John Jackson, D.D., Bishop of Lincoln. (Skeffington.)—It is a great mistake to assume that orthodoxy debars itself from appeals to "consciousness." On the contrary, there is a danger of such appeals being carried to a disagreeable length and becoming a new kind of cant. But the Bishop of Lincoln's Sermons, whilst they consist professedly of an appeal to consciousness in behalf of the Gospel, do not offend one by any indelicacy or priggishness. We feel that the Bishop is endeavouring to realize honestly, and without exaggeration, the great universal wants of the human spirit; and the aspect of the Gospel which he presents is marked by breadth and simplicity. In other words, he manifests a reverent spirit both towards human nature and towards the Gospel. In the first sermon he speaks of "the sense of demerit" which haunts the human consciousness, and of the satisfaction provided for this by the revelation of God's Righteousness in Christ and the reconciliation of the sinner through forgiveness; in the second, of the craving for a manifested God to be known and worshipped and loved, met by the person of a Divine and Human Mediator; in the third, of strength and sanctification by the Holy Spirit; and in the fourth, of everlasting life. The Bishop of Lincoln is not a Broad Churchman, but he is moderate, candid, and rational in his theology, and his Sermons are not wanting in eloquence of a grave and sober kind. In a fifth sermon the Bishop treats of the Nemesis of excess in Faith and Worship. There is something necessarily superficial in the Aristotelian treatment of faith and worship as means respectively between two extremes. But the extremes which the Bishop denounces are, no doubt, to be avoided.

*A Commentary, Practical and Exegetical, on the Lord's Prayer.* By the Rev. W. Denton, M.A. (Rivingtons.)—THIS neat little volume is professedly a Cento of observations from theological writers of every school and age. The observations are sometimes such as need not have been fetched from a recondite source. For example, the remark "No one is free from temptation in this life: no one without God's grace can escape from the snares which surround him," attributed to Ferus (whoever he may be), is scarcely above the reach of thought of the most immature preacher. But the reader of Mr. Denton's book may have the satisfaction of knowing that the Commentary, apart from its intrinsic character, is the gathered fruit of many great divines. Thus one small page contains quotations from "Cyprian, Augustine, Alford, Andrews, Avendaño, Salmeron, Guillaud, and Bernard;" another from "Ward, Salmeron, Cyprian, Tertullian, Rabanus Maurus, Jansen, Augustine."

*Sketches from Life and Jottings from Books.* By W. H. C. Nation, author of "Trifles," "Cypress-Leaves," &c. (Newby. Pp. 288.)—MR. NATION has considerable facility in dashing off "sketches," and his "jottings from books" are curious and entertaining. His style is light, almost flippant; and, although there is little originality in what he says, there is very much amusement. Most of his "Gatherings from Gravestones" we have seen before; but, in his "Flowers that Blush Unseen," he refreshes the memory and regales the finer sense by placing before us choice bouquets culled from the writings of the more obscure and almost forgotten poets of the seventeenth century. Among these are "Thomas Randolph, M.A., and late Fellow of Trinity College in Cambridge," 1643; R. Wild, D.D., London, 1671; and Thomas Flatman, London, 1682. In another chapter, entitled "A Book of Instruction Two Hundred Years Ago," he gives some very amusing extracts from a volume "Printed by E. T., for Andrew Crooke, at the Signe of the Green Dragon, in Paul's Churchyard," 1654. The volume is entitled "A Help to Discourse; or, More Merri-ment mixt with Serious Matters; consisting of Witty, Philosophicall, Grammaticall, Physicall, Astronomicall Questions and Answers, as also Epigrams, Epitaphs, Riddles, Jests, Poesies, Love-Toyes, &c., re-added and plentifully dispersed. Together with the Countryman's Counsellor, and his Yearly Oracle and Prognostication, with Additions; or, a Help to Preserve His Health: never before printed." The extracts from such a book the reader can easily imagine quaint enough. The chapter which pleases us most is named "Only a Poor Player," and narrates rapidly, and with considerable spirit, the story of David Garrick.

# THE READER.

25 JUNE, 1864.

**On Cottage Construction and Design.** By C. W. Strickland. (Macmillan & Co. Pp. 121.)—HOUSES for the labouring classes in town, and cottages for them in the country, with some reference to light, ventilation, and comfort, have for some time employed the thought and leisure of good men. The importance of this kind of philanthropy requires no comment at our hand, and we but perform our duty in welcoming to a field so large every one who comes honestly and earnestly to the work. Alderman Waterlow has done, and is doing, for the city of London what Mr. C. W. Strickland would fain see accomplished for our country districts; and, if the working estimates of the designs before us are at all within compass, we see no reason why cottages of the class Mr. Strickland describes should not be multiplied. The book, besides chapters on "the arrangements of the plan of cottage," "details of construction," "cottage design," and "details of design," contains, in the appendix, all the necessary specifications, and eighteen admirable plates of "plans" and "elevations." It is rather to be regretted that the writer of so excellent a book should, in the conclusion, have trammelled its virtue by excluding all club and union men, not only from the benefit of his sympathy and advice, but also from "Christ's kingdom." "The man," continues our author, "who has sold his conscience to a club, and has become the slave of a club delegate, is no longer a servant of the Prince of Peace, but has become a worshipper of Baal, and his idol is lawless power." This, and a good deal that precedes and follows it, is, we say, rather to be regretted.

**Sunday-School Photographs.** By the Rev. Alfred Taylor, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Pa. With an Introduction by John S. Hart, LL.D. (Edinburgh: Johnstone, Hunter, & Co. Pp. 198.)—"THE author of the following sketches," says Dr. Hart, "is widely known—first, as a successful Sabbath School Missionary; secondly, as a pastor who, in his own church, has given special attention to the cultivation of this department of the field of ministerial labour; and, lastly, as a writer, who has most happily 'photographed' for the use of others the results of his own observation and experience." The sketches appeared originally, we are further told, in the *Sunday School Times*; and, on perusing them, which we have done with considerable pleasure, we find in them much clever and graphic description and certain touches of humour which none but an American could have imparted. There is no doubting for a moment that the "Fidgety Superintendent," the "Heavy Superintendent," the "Slovenly Superintendent," the "Argumentative Teacher," the "Unconverted Teacher," the "Uneasy Teacher," the "Traditional Teacher," and the "Regularly-late Teacher" have all sat for their "photographs." So also have the "Too-big Scholar," the "Rebellious Scholar," and the "Lazy Scholar," as well as the "Apologetic Speaker," the "Untimely Speaker," and the "Ridiculous Speaker."

**Songs of Life and Labour.** Edited by David Page, F.R.S.E., F.G.S., author of "Philosophy of Geology," &c. (Edinburgh: Nimmo. Pp. 304.)—THIS forms one of the five volumes of selected poetry which Mr. Page has named, collectively, "Life-lights of Song." "As in the previous volumes of the series," says he, "so in this, the selection has been made from the wide field of modern poetry, and in several instances from the works of living authors." It is a pity that Mr. Page has not given us an index of these authors. The book is handsomely got up, and the poems, both English and American, have been selected with much discrimination.

**Ocean Lays; or, the Sea, the Ship, and the Sailor, in a Series of Poems, Selected and Original.** By the Rev. J. Longmuir, LL.D., Minister of the Church, Aberdeen, author of "Bible Lays," "Dunnottar Castle," "Speyside," &c. New and Enlarged Edition. (Edinburgh: Johnstone and Hunter. Pp. 348.)—DR. LONGMUIR'S intimacy with sailors and the sea should qualify him for making a selection of "Ocean Lays." He begins with Shakespeare and Milton, and comes down to Campbell, Coleridge, and Tennyson. Not a few of the pieces, moreover, are from his own pen; and the collection, so far as "the sea, the ship, and the sailor" are concerned, is as complete as we could wish.

**Maude Talbot.** By Holme Lee. With Five Illustrations. A New Edition. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)—THE publishers do well in keeping the pleasant tales of Holme Lee continuously before the public in this cheap and popular series. "Kathie Brande," "Sylvan Holt's Daughter," "Gilbert Messenger," "Against Wind and Tide,"

"Thermy Hall," and "Hawksview" are now followed by this charming tale of "Maude Talbot," to be itself followed shortly, we presume, by similar editions of "The Silver Age," "Annie Warleigh's Fortunes," "The Wortlebank Diary," and "Warp and Woof," all of which still retain their deserved popularity and freshness.

**Is the Anonymous System a Security for the Purity and Independence of the Press? A Question for the TIMES Newspaper.** By W. Hargraves. (Ridgway. Pp. 32.)—MR. HARGRAVES takes up the same ground that was occupied by Mr. Hughes in *Macmillan's Magazine* some months ago, and, by a very logical process, comes to the conclusion that we would be much better without anonymous journalism. In referring to the controversy between Mr. Cobden and Mr. Delane he takes his place promptly by the side of the former, and thinks he raised a question of much wider significance than either of the combatants seemed to recognise at the time. The pamphlet is trenchant throughout, and well worth a perusal by all interested in the question.

**Critical Essays.** By the Rev. T. E. Espin, B.D. (Rivingtons.)—THE seven Essays contained in this volume are expansions of articles which have all appeared, if we remember rightly, in the *Guardian* newspaper. They are on good subjects: Wesleyan Methodism, Essays and Reviews, Edward Irving, Hessey's Bampton Lectures, Bishop Wilson of Sodor and Man, Bishop Wilson of Calcutta, Calvin. The reader who looks into them as intelligent articles written on moderate High Church principles is not likely to be disappointed in them.

**Sermons for the People.** By F. D. Huntington, D.D., Preacher to the University, and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals in the College, at Cambridge. (Boston: Crosby and Nichols; London: Miall. Pp. 468.)—THESE sermons, says the preface, have been both written and printed because the author thoroughly believes the things affirmed in them to be true, and hopes that other persons may be willing to meditate upon them with him. If we would give something like an approximate idea of the purity of spirit and vigour of style which characterize the volume before us, we could scarcely select a more appropriate passage than the following. It is from the sermon entitled "The Word of Life: a Living Ministry and a Living Church," and runs thus: "If the Church will go forth, then, to win new victories, she needs only to take fearlessly up the supremacy with which her God has endowed her—namely, the reconciling life of her indwelling Lord. Shutting up all internal questions that make her militate against herself, she is to move on in her own absolute, sublime majesty, militant only against every form of sin, to enthrone the kingdom of God. She must cease to beg favours of worldly policy. She must stop her infamous coquetry with Mammon. She must not be bowing on Sundays to sectarian prejudice, nor on week-days to social respectability, nor ever whisper guilty flatteries to popular sins, nor wait till great public vices are manifestly dying out of themselves, and feeble with approaching dissolution, before she dares strike at them. The staunch, uncompromising sincerity of old Puritans and Confessors must be in her muscles. An awful zeal must gird up her loins. Purity, freedom, equity, are to be more to her than costly churches; the prayers of saintly men and women, and children too, her patronage; and her daily speech, the benediction of charity. She must hold forth, through her ministers, the word of life; to wit, that God is in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself."

**The Life of Sacrifice: a Course of Lectures delivered at All Saints, Margaret Street, in Lent, 1864.** By the Rev. T. T. Carter, M.A., Rector of Clewer, Berks. (Masters.)—THESE lectures are both devout and thoughtful, and no one could either hear or read them without a feeling of respect for the preacher. But they are written in what strikes the ordinary reader as a peculiar dialect, and in a style by no means easy or lucid. They cannot be understood, therefore, without an effort. Their aim is to set forth a lofty idea of sacrifice, as the act or life of unquestioning, but blissful, submission to the Divine will.

**Outlines of Geography for Schools and Colleges.** By William Lawson, Training College, Durham, author of "Geography of the British Empire."—"THE principle on which this work is written," says the preface, "is to dwell chiefly on those points which may be seen in a map; and thus greater prominence has been given to the description of mountains, rivers, and towns than to other branches of geography, though these other branches have not been neglected." Mr. Dawson

carries out this idea in the arrangement of his text; and, by a judicious use of bold type, the eye catches at once the more essential facts. The different countries are generally considered under three heads:—"The Surface and Minerals, including also remarks on the Climate and Natural Productions; the Rivers and Chief Towns, with the Industrial Pursuits of the People; the Coast Line and Commerce." The plan is a good one, and carefully carried out.

**John Heywood's Senior Atlas** contains twenty-nine maps, in which the latest geographical discoveries are noted. The plates are rather unequal; otherwise the series is likely to be useful enough.

**A Letter to the Hon. Benjamin R. Curtis, late Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, in review of his recently-published pamphlet on the "Emancipation Proclamation" of the President.** By Charles P. Kirkland of New York. (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph. Pp. 20.)—SHORTLY after the President issued his famous "Emancipation Proclamation," Judge Curtis published a pamphlet in which he not only animadverted on the policy of such a step, but expressed, in no unequivocal manner, his doubts "as to the lawfulness in any Christian or civilized land of the use of such means." It is to rebut the arguments of the learned judge, and to counteract the influence of his pamphlet, that Mr. Kirkland takes the field.

**My Account with her Majesty:** by Andrew Haliday (Partridge, pp. 15), is a cleverly-written tract on the advantages of "Post-Office Savings Banks." This is approaching the working man in the right way, and we are sure the influence of such a story will work for much good.

**Jacob Bendixen, the Jew.** From the Danish of Goldschmidt. By Mary Howitt. (Chapman and Hall.)—WE are glad to find this clever picture of Jewish domestic life, manners, and feelings—written by a Jew—added to Messrs. Chapman and Hall's select library of two-shilling volumes. It gives a better insight into the home-life of Jewish families than is to be met with elsewhere.

**Lectures on Biblical Temperance.** By Eliphalet Nott, D.D., President of Union College, Schenectady. With an Introduction by Taylor Lewis, LL.D., Professor of Greek in Union College. (Trübner & Co. Pp. 268.)—DR. NOTT'S lectures are ten in number, and were delivered in the winter of 1838-9 at Schenectady, New York, and first appeared, at the request of Mr. Delavan of Albany, "the munificent patron of the American Temperance Society," in the *Enquirer*. They have since gone through several editions; and the present one is specially prepared for this country, and has the advantage of an introduction by Dr. Lewis. The appendices, which are numerous, refer to the Scriptural, classical, and scientific phases of the question.

**Practical Swiss Guide. Red-Book for Switzerland, the adjoining districts of Savoy, Piedmont, North Italy, the introductory routes from London by France, Belgium, Holland, and the Rhine, and, in the briefest possible space, every necessary advice to see all that ought to be seen in the shortest periods and at the least expense.** By an Englishman Abroad. Ninth Edition. (Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. Pp. 228.)—THE title of this handbook is so exhaustive that little is left for us to say. We have, however, gone carefully into several parts of it, and find that the book is all that it pretends to be. It is accompanied with maps, diagrams, practical plans of rails, woodcuts, and time-tables, besides a very useful vocabulary of languages.

**Notes on Wood.** By Joseph Justen. (Dulau & Co.)—IN this pamphlet Mr. Justen contrives to give, in a very satisfactory manner, many particulars relative to the properties, relative durabilities, and preservation of wood, together with an account of the constructions of wood in England and in various countries. These latter sections are of value from an archaeological point of view.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

- AINGER (Rev. Thomas, M.A.) Sermons on Various Subjects, chiefly practical. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii+319. Rivingtons. 6s.
- ARNOLD'S FIRST HEBREW BOOK, KEY TO. Edited by the Rev. Henry Browne, M.A. Second Edition. 12mo. Rivingtons. 3s. 6d.
- ART (The) and Mystery of Curing, Preserving, and Potting all kinds of Meats, Game, and Fish; also, the Art of Pickling, and the Preservation of Fruit and Vegetables. Adapted as well for the Wholesale Dealer as all Housekeepers. By a Wholesale Curer of Comestibles. Post 8vo., pp. xviii+184. Chapman and Hall. 4s. 6d.
- BEDFORD. Recollections and Wanderings of Paul Bedford. Facts, not Fancies. With a Portrait. Post 8vo., pp. 160. Routledge. 5s.
- BRABAZON (Elizabeth Jane). Month at Gravesend: containing an Account of the Town and Neighbourhood, Statistical, Historical, and Descriptive. Second Edition. Fcap. 8vo., pp. xvi+174. Gravesend: Baynes. Simpkin. 8d., 6d.; with Map, cl. 1p., 1s.; with Illustrations, 2s.

# THE READER.

25 JUNE, 1864.

Bor's (The) Treasury of Sports and Pastimes. Feap. 8vo., bds. Routledge. Each, 1s.—Athletic Sports and Recreations for Boys. By Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A. New Edition.—Games and Sports for Young Boys. Illustrated.—Games of Skill and Conjur'g. Illustrated. New Edition.—Scientific Amusements for Young People. By John Henry Pepper. Illustrated.—Young Angler (The). Naturalist, and Pigeon and Rabbit Fancier, &c. Illustrated.

BRAITHWAITE'S RETROSPECT OF MEDICINE. Being a Half-yearly Journal, containing a Retrospective View of every Discovery and Practical Improvement in the Medical Sciences. Edited by W. Braithwaite, M.D., and James Braithwaite, M.D. Vol. 49. January—June 1864. Post 8vo., pp. xxxvi—408. Simpkin. 6s.

BRENT (B. P.) Canary, British Finches, and some other Birds; including Directions for their Management and Breeding in the Cage and Aviary, as well as the Treatment of their Diseases. With Illustrations. Feap. 8vo., pp. 123. Journal of Horticulture Office. 1s. 6d.

BUTLER (Samuel). Hudibras: a Poem. New Edition. 18mo. Tegg. 2s.

CAROLINE MATILDA. Life and Times of H.M. Caroline Matilda, Queen of Denmark and Norway, and Sister of H.M. George III. of England. From Family Documents and Private State Archives. By Sir C. F. Lascelles Wrixall, Bart. Three Volumes. 8vo. pp. xi—1000. W. H. Allen. 36s.

CATALOGO DEI MANOSCRITTI ITALIANI. Nella B. Bodleiana a Oxford. Compilato del Conte Alessandro Mortara. 4to. (Clarendon Press.) Macmillan. 10s. 6d.

COKE (Charles Anthony). Population Gazetteer of England and Wales, and the Islands in the British Seas; showing the Number of Inhabitants of every Parish and Place, according to the Census of 1861. Derived from the Official Returns of the Census. Sm. 4to., sd., pp. xvi—239. Harrison. 2s. 6d.; cl., 3s.

CRAIK (George L., M.A.). Compendious History of English Literature and of the English Language, from the Norman Conquest. With Numerous Specimens. Two Volumes. Second Edition. 8vo., pp. 1201. Griffin. 25s.

CUMMINS (Miss). Haunted Hearts. By the Author of "The Lamplighter." (Railway Library.) Feap. 8vo., bds., pp. viii—325. Routledge. 2s.

DE FOE. The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, of York, Mariner. Illustrated. New Edition. Feap. 8vo., bds., pp. viii—312. Ward and Lock. 2s.

FROUDE (James Anthony, M.A.). History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Death of Elizabeth. Vols. 3 and 4. Third Edition. 8vo., pp. xxiv—1092. Longman. 28s.

GAZE (Henry). Holland and Belgium: how to See them for Seven Guineas. Containing a Daily Plan of Progress, a Reference to the Principal Routes, &c., &c. Cr. 8vo., sd., pp. 24. Kent. 6d.

GOLDSCHMIDT. Jacob Bendixen, the Jew. From the Danish of Goldschmidt. By Mary Howitt. New Edition. (Select Library of Fiction.) 12mo., bds., pp. 376. Chapman and Hall. 2s.

GOULBURN (Edward Meyrick, D.D.). Manual of Confirmation, comprising: 1. A General Account of the Ordinance. 2. The Baptismal Vow, and the English Order of Confirmation, with short Notes, Critical and Devotional. 3. Meditations and Prayers on Passages of Holy Scripture, in connexion with the Ordinance, with a Pastoral Letter, instructing Catechumens how to prepare themselves for their first Communion. Fifth Edition. Feap. 8vo., cl., sd., pp. 72. Rivingtons. 1s. 6d.

GRAMMAR (The) of House Planning. Hints on Arranging and Modifying Plans of Cottages, Street-houses, Farm-houses, Villas, Mansions, and Out-buildings. By an M.S.A., and M.R.A.S. With numerous Illustrations and Plates. Sm. cr. 8vo., pp. x—190. Fullarton. 5s.

HARDEMAN (James Josephus). Songs for the Sanctuary: being a Selection from the Psalms, and other Parts of Holy Scripture; together with a number of Ancient Hymns, arranged and pointed for Chanting. Also Sixty-two appropriate Chants, arranged in short score, for the Voice, Organ, or Pianoforte. Feap. 8vo., pp. vi—106. J. F. Shaw. 2s.

HODDER (Edwin). Junior Clerk: a Tale of City Life. With a Preface by W. Edwyn Shipton. Second Edition. Feap. 8vo., pp. viii—170. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder. 2s. 6d.

JONES (Harry, M.A.). Holiday Papers. Cr. 8vo., pp. viii—431. Hardwicke. 6s.

KARR (W. S. Seton). Selections from Calcutta Gazettes of the Years 1784—8. Roy. 8vo. Longman. 7s. 6d.

KNIGHT (Charles). Passages of a Working Life during Half a Century: with a Prelude of Early Reminiscences. Vol. 2. Post 8vo., pp. 336. Bradbury. 10s. 6d.

LEE (Holme). In the Silver Age: "Essays—that is, Dispersed Meditations." Two Volumes. Cr. 8vo., pp. xvii—507. Smith and Elder. 12s.

LENNOX (Lord William Pitt). Adventures of a Man of Family. Three Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 947. Hurst and Blackett. 31s. 6d.

LOST JEWEL (The): a Tale. By A. L. O. E. New Edition. Feap. 8vo., pp. 206. J. F. Shaw. 3s. 6d.

LUPTON (Rev. J. H.). Wakefield Worthies; or, Biographical Sketches of Men of Note connected by Birth or otherwise, with the Town of Wakefield, in Yorkshire. Post 8vo., pp. vii—220. Wakefield: Mickelthwait. Hamilton. 5s.

MARION. By Manhattan. Second Edition. Three Volumes. Post 8vo. Saunders and Otley. 31s. 6d.

MONTHLY PACKET (The) of Evening Readings for Younger Members of the English Church. Vol. 27. Parts 157 to 162. January to June 1864. Feap. 8vo., pp. 668. Mozley. 5s.

MR. CHRISTOPHER KATYDID (of Casconia). A Tale. Edited by Mark Heywood. Two Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. xxxii—641. Saunders and Otley. 21s.

NEWMAN (John Henry, D.D.). Apologia pro Vita Sua: being a Reply to a Pamphlet entitled "What, then, does Dr. Newman mean?" Appendix. Answer in detail to Mr. Kingsley's Accusations. 8vo., sd. Longman. 2s. 6d.

ONCE A WEEK. An Illustrated Miscellany of Literature, Art, Science, and Popular Information. Vol. 10. December 1863 to June 1864. Sup. roy. 8vo., pp. 724. Bradbury. 7s. 6d.

PRIEST (John, M.D.). Principles and Practice of Medicine: designed chiefly for Students of Indian Medical Colleges. 8vo., pp. xii—591. Bombay: Churchill. 18s.

PRITCHARD (Robert A., D.C.L., and W. Tarn). Digest of the Law and Practice of the Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, and with reference to Appeals from the Court. With Precedents, including Bills of Costs and Notes. Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged. Roy. 8vo., pp. xiv—471. W. Maxwell. 26s.

REID (Capt. Mayne). Cliff-Climbers; or, the Lone House in the Himalayas. New Edition. Feap. 8vo., bds., pp. viii—408. C. H. Clarke. 2s.

RYLAND. Wholesome Words; or, One Hundred choice Passages from Old Authors. Selected and Edited by J. E. Ryland, M.A. Feap. 8vo., pp. viii—212. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder. 3s. 6d.

SMITH (Albert). Adventures of Mr. Ledbury and his Friend Jack Johnson. New Edition. Feap. 8vo., bds. Routledge. 2s.

SWAN (Joseph). Delineations of the Brain in relation to Voluntary Motion. With Plates. 4to., pp. iv—65. Bradbury. 21s.

SWAN (Joseph). Illustrations of the Comparative Anatomy of the Nervous System. Second Edition. With Plates. Roy. 4to., pp. xi—250. Bradbury. 52s. 6d.

TAYLER (W. Elfe). Ashley Down; or, Living Faith in a Living God. Memorials of the new Orphan Houses on Ashley Down, Bristol, under the direction of George Müller. Second Edition, revised. Feap. 8vo., pp. xviii—206. J. F. Shaw. 3s. 6d.

TESTAMENTUM. Novum Testamentum Græce Antiquissimum Codicum Textus in ordine parallelo dispositi accedit Collatio Codicis Sinaitici. Edidit Edvardus H. Hansell, S. T. B. Three Volumes. 8vo., hf. bd., pp. xxxvi—1368. (Clarendon Press.) Macmillan. 52s. 6d.

TULLOCH (John, D.D.). Christ of the Gospels and the Christ of Modern Criticism: Lectures on M. Renan's "Vie de Jésus." Sm. cr. 8vo., pp. 2—220. Macmillan. 4s. 6d.

VAUGHAN (C. J., D.D.). Son, thou art ever with me. A Sermon. 8vo., sd. Macmillan. 1s.

VIVIAN (Ralph). Breakers Ahead! Two Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 603. Bentley. 21s.

WILSON'S TALES OF THE BORDERS AND OF SCOTLAND. Revised by Alexander Leighton. New Edition. Volume 15. Feap. 8vo., sd., pp. 284. Manchester: Ainsworth, Ward and Lock. 1s.

WYNN (Frances Williams). Diaries of a Lady of Quality. From 1797 to 1844. Edited, with Notes, by A. Hayward, Esq., Q.C. Second Edition. Post 8vo., pp. xvi—373. Longman. 10s. 6d.

## JUST READY.

BERESFORD (Rev. J.) Unchangeable Priesthood, &c. Feap. 8vo. Macintosh. 1s.

BULGER (G. E.) Leaves from the Records of St. Hubert's Club. 8vo. Booth. 10s. 6d.

CAMBRIDGE PROBLEMS AND RIDERS, 1864 (Solutions to). 8vo. Macmillan. 10s. 6d.

CHAMBERS'S ENCYCLOPEDIA. Vol. 6. Roy. 8vo. Chambers. 9s.

COLLINS (C. A.) Strathcarran. Two Volumes. Post 8vo. Low. 16s.

ENGLISH CATALOGUE OF BOOKS, 1835—1862. Roy. 8vo. Low. 45s.

GORILLA AND THE DOVE (The). Obg. Fol. Day and Son. 21s.

GRONOW (Capt.) Recollections and Anecdotes. New Edition. In One Volume. Cr. 8vo. Smith and Elder. 6s.

HOUSE AMONG THE HILLS. Feap. 8vo. Smith and Elder. 5s.

JONES (Owen). One Thousand and One Initial Letters. Fol. Day and Son. 70s.

KENT (Chas.) Footprints on the Road. Cr. 8vo. Chapman and Hall. 5s.

KIRKWALL (Viscount). Four Years in the Ionian Islands. Two Volumes. Post 8vo. Chapman and Hall. 21s.

MAZZINI (Joseph). Life and Writings. Vol. 1. Autobiographical. Post 8vo. Smith and Elder. 9s.

MORRIS (M. O.) Rambles in the Rocky Mountains. Post 8vo. Smith and Elder. 6s.

O'DONOGHUE (Rev. F. T.) St. Knighton's Keive. Post 8vo. Smith and Elder. 10s. 6d.

PARKER (Theodore). Collected Works. Vol. 8. Miscellaneous Discourses. Cr. 8vo. Trübner. 6s.

PROCTER (Adelaide A.) Legends and Lyrics. Eighth Edition. Feap. 8vo. Bell and Daldy. 5s.

ST. JOHN (J. A.) Weighed in the Balance. Three Volumes. Post 8vo. Tinsley. 31s. 6d.

SHIRLEY (W. W.) Elijah. Four University Sermons. Feap. 8vo. Macmillan. 2s. 6d.

TURNER (Rev. Charles). Sonnets. Feap. 8vo. Macmillan. 4s. 6d.

WHATELY (Richard). Memoirs of. By W. J. Fitzpatrick. Volumes. Post 8vo. Bentley. 21s.

WILLS (James). Leisure Moments. Cr. 8vo. Macintosh. 4s. 6d.

## MISCELLANEA.

THE Laureate's new volume of poems, "The Idylls of the Heath," is announced for publication in July.

MESSRS. SAUNDERS, OTLEY, & CO. are preparing for publication a history of the careers of the two famous Confederate vessels, the *Sumter* and the *Alabama*, compiled from the private journals of Captain Semmes while in command of the vessels, and from a mass of letters and other documents.

MR. HOTTEN of Piccadilly is about to publish a dictionary of colloquial expressions, giving, where possible, their origin, with instances of their use, which has been in course of preparation for some time by the compiler of the small "Dictionary of Modern Slang," published in 1859. The new book is entitled "The Slang Dictionary; or, the Vulgar Words, Street Phrases, and 'Fast' Expressions of High and Low Society;" and it will contain, it is said, several thousand words and phrases in daily use, but which are not contained in our English dictionaries.

IN one of the reviews in our last number there was an incidental mention of Canon Cureton as one of the small group of Europe's greatest Oriental scholars. Ere the article appeared Dr. Cureton was dead. He died on the morning of Friday, the 17th inst., at his country-house of Westbury, in Shropshire, at the age of fifty-six. Born in 1808, and educated at Christ Church, Oxford, he was ordained priest in 1834, and was for a time sub-librarian of the Bodleian. In 1837 he became assistant-keeper of the MSS. in the British Museum; which post he retained till 1849, when he was appointed to a canonry of Westminster and to the attached rectorship of the parish of St. Margaret's. Two years before that date he had been appointed chaplain-in-ordinary to the Queen. Recently he received the high honour of being appointed to a special or royal trusteeship of the British Museum. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Society, an honorary D.D. of Halle, corresponding member of the Institute of France, and member of the Asiatic Society of Paris, the Oriental Society of Germany, and many other Continental societies. These honours he owed to his great reputation as an Orientalist, and especially as a Syriac scholar. It is more than twenty years since this reputation was formed by publications of his while he was an official in the British Museum. His "Corpus Ignatianum," an edition of an ancient Syriac version of the Epistles of St. Ignatius, with commentaries thereon, was published in 1845, and gave rise to an interesting controversy. Among his subsequent works were an edition of a palimpsest of parts of Homer found in an Eastern convent, and his "Spicilegium Syriacum," published in 1855. He was understood to be engaged on some work connected with St. Matthew's Gospel at the time

of his death. About a year ago Dr. Cureton sustained a severe nervous shock from a railway accident near Streatham (for which he obtained £3170 in compensation), and his health had suffered ever since. Among his greatest admirers were the late Prince Consort and Baron Bunsen, to the first of whom, it is understood, he owed his preferment in the Church. As a parish clergyman Dr. Cureton is said to have been quite out of his element. He was specifically the greatest Syriac scholar in Britain.

THE ninth number of the *Autographic Mirror*, published on the 15th inst. contains unpublished letters of the Duke of Wellington, Lords Clive, Anglesey, and Melbourne, Generals Stonewall Jackson and Stuart, Bedeau, Thackwell, and Marshal Wrangel, President Davis and others, and a sketch by Rowlandson.

THE Alexandra Park great "Flower Show" of the season took place on Wednesday and Thursday last, the flowers being arranged with considerable taste in four tents, forming together the shape of a Greek cross. The exhibition of fruits was in other tents. Prizes to the amount of £700 were awarded on the occasion.

MR. BOOTH of Regent Street is London agent for a large Russian work entitled "An Ethnological Description of the various Nations and Peoples comprised in the vast Empire of Russia." It is published under the patronage of the Russian Government, and dedicated to the Emperor, by M. T. De Pauly, Member of the Imperial Geographical Society, etc. The illustrations consist of sixty-two coloured lithographic drawings, executed from nature, representing the costumes and types of the different nations and people described.

M. COSTE has forwarded to us a couple of papers which cannot fail to be read with great interest by those who make the food question the important inquiry it deserves to be. The one is his "Note sur les Huîtres Artificielles des Terrains Émergents"—a supplementary paper of four quarto pages to his valuable book on the subject of the formation of Oyster-beds, a source of wealth which no landed proprietor should neglect whose land is within the immediate ebb and flow of the tide of the sea, or even on the banks of tidal streams, where the density of the water is not destroyed by the influence of land-springs. This paper was read at the *Institut*, of which M. Coste is a member, on the 3rd of November, and has been printed in the "Comptes-rendus des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences." The other is on the cultivation of fish of the sea—a sure and certain source of wealth if properly managed. It was read at the *Institut* in July last, and bears the title of "De l'Aliénation des Rivages comme Moyen de créer des Richesses nouvelles, et de transformer l'Inscription Maritime en Conscription Maritime"—a conscription, by the way, which reminds one of the old song of "Dilly, dilly, dilly Ducks," for the killing and eating of these conscriptions are the gist of M. Coste's argument. It is pleasant to read these sensible papers of M. Coste after the perusal of some of the trashy dissertations on pisciculture with which we have lately been favoured at home.

SIR HUMPHREY DAVY is to have a memorial raised to him in his native town of Penzance. £1500 have already been subscribed by the inhabitants themselves, but they anticipate increasing this sum to £10,000 from other sources.

MR. HAIN FRISWELL has a new novel in hand, to be published by Messrs. Low, Son, and Marston in September, under the title of "A Splendid Fortune."

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following little account of Hawthorne's funeral:—"Hawthorne died, when five days absent from home, in the same way that Thackeray died—found dead with a smile upon his face. A friend was with him. He had lived at Concord, and his funeral there was a beautiful one. The church was heaped with flowers, the music admirable, the grave dug in a sod literally alive with violets, under singing pines, and bordered with a wreath of white lilies. He was borne to the body's rest by a troop of literary friends of the Atlantic Club—Emerson and Longfellow walking first; Agassiz, Holmes, Lowell, &c., &c., afterwards. Fields carried his last unfinished manuscript in his hand. All the young women of the place brought wreaths, apple-blossoms, and all the promise of our spring. The day was lovely—the birds in full warble—the winds in choir. They say it seemed a festival of life rather than the ceremony of death."

AMONGST recent American publications we have "The History of the Administration of President Lincoln; including his Speeches, Letters, Addresses, Proclamations, and Messages, with a

**Preliminary Sketch of his Life,"** by Henry J. Raymond—a volume of some 500 pages *à propos* of the coming election for President.

THE genus *Pinus* has always formed one of the most interesting amongst the families of trees as a study to owners of landed property. Just now, for a few days, there is on view at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at South Kensington a very large collection of plants, cones, drawings, photographs, &c., of *Coniferae* which served to illustrate the lecture of Mr. Murray, delivered on Tuesday last. Amongst the photographs are those of the Wellingtonia, taken in California from the gigantic trees themselves; of majestic Deodara pines, taken in the Himalayas; of Canadian firs, taken in Nova Scotia; and of some very beautiful European cone-bearers, taken by Mr. Warren Vernon, Mr. Ross, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Graham, Mr. White, and other no less skilled out-door photographers. A visit to this exhibition is well worth the while of all persons planting and improving their estates. The Bazaar in aid of the Building Fund of the Female School of Art, which opened on Thursday last at these Gardens, closes to-day.

MESSRS. SAMPSON Low & Co. announce for immediate publication "Ten Days in a French Parsonage in the Summer of 1863," by Dr. George Musgrave. They have had on view, since Wednesday last, the picture of "Washington Irving and his Literary Friends at Sunnyside," of which they are about to issue an engraving.

THE Minister of Public Instruction of France has ordered the General Inspector of Schools, M. Gaudon, immediately to proceed to the Département de la Meurthe et les Vosges and to take forthwith the necessary steps "for the protection of the inhabitants of these parts against the German language." M. Gaudon and the District-Inspector have convoked forty-five German schoolmasters, and promised them certain rewards if they would do their utmost for the propagation of the French language in their special circles. The schoolmasters, however, confessed that, although they had all along done their very best towards this purpose, their labours remained fruitless, since the clergymen and *maires* were against them. A circular to those personages was finally drawn up and issued in the name of the highest authorities, in which they are strongly urged to assist the schoolmasters in their "work of civilization"—viz., the propagation of the French language in the Vosges.

THE petition to the Senate for the abolition of capital punishment in France has already obtained 100,000 signatures.

THE professors of the Collège de France have, in their recent meetings, in order to show their disapprobation of Renan's dismissal, proposed for the newly-created chair for Comparative Philology two candidates according to their wrath—viz., Adolf Regnier, the translator of Schiller into French, a staunch Orleanist, and who, if elected, would immediately have to be dismissed again, since he would, under no circumstances, take the oath; and Bréal, a young man of very great promise, but who likewise does not seem to be particularly liked in government circles. Bréal, like Munk, professes the Jewish faith. The appointment of the latter, if, in his weak state of health and his blindness, he could be prevailed upon to accept the office, would be a real boon to science. He is one of the most eminent Semitic scholars living.

THE family of M. Jomard, the celebrated geographer, recently deceased, has just issued the collection at which he had been working since 1828, and which he had just finished when he died—viz., the "Monuments de la Géographie," a history of geography, as he used to call it, written by itself. The collection consists of twenty-one plates, containing the fac-similes of all the ancient maps known in Europe and in the East, the celestial and terrestrial globes, mappemondes, cosmographical tables, astrolabes, and instruments of observation in use since the earliest times to the period of Ortelius and G. Mercator—that is, to the end of the sixteenth century. The "Monuments" contain, among other things, the bronze Kufic celestial globe of the eleventh century in the Imperial Library of Paris; the map of an itinerary from London to Jerusalem, from the Chronicle of Matthew Paris in the British Museum; the mappemonde, painted on vellum, executed by command of Henry II., king of France, the original of which was lately bought for 20,000 fr.; the mappemonde of Gérard Mercator, &c., &c.

A LEGACY of 20,000 francs has been bequeathed to the French Académie des Sciences by Miss Agathe Letellier, which, under the name of

"Savigny Foundation," is to supply young zoologists with the necessary means of continuing M. de Savigny's investigations in Egypt and Syria.

A VETERAN of the First Empire, General de Mylius, had offered to the Académie de France to found a prize (500 fr. rente), which should be given annually, in the shape of a gold medal, to the author of the best essay on general religious tolerance. The Academy, however, has declined the offer; and General Mylius now offers it to any society which may be willing to take up the plan.

COUNT MONTALEMBERT has returned from Belgium to France, and has gone to Bourgogne in order to finish his history of the monks in the East.

THE last volume of Count Broglie's "History of the Church and the Roman Empire in the Fourth Century" is to appear in autumn.

RENAN has a pamphlet in hand entitled "Ma Situation," in which, it is said, he will offer himself as a candidate for the Opposition at the next election.

PELISSIER'S memoirs will, after being officially cleansed from all disagreeable matter, appear under the title "Mémoires et Souvenirs par un Maréchal de France." The Duchess is said to receive a pension of 25,000 francs.

ACCORDING to *La France*, Prince Napoleon is preparing an account of the lives and writings of the members of the family of Bonaparte.

OF new journals started at Paris within the last few weeks we mention: *L'Indépendance Dramatique*, *Journal de la Liberté des Théâtres*; *La Salle à Manger*, *Chronique de la Table*, *Revue Anecdote*, *Recettes Culinaires*, &c., *par des Gourmets Littéraires et des Maîtres de Bouche*; and *Corriere Italiano*, *Giornale Internazionale, politico, letterario e finanziario*.

THE old castle of Plessy-les-Tours, the scene of Scott's "Quentin Durward," has just been purchased by a member of the Paris stock exchange, who intends restoring it in keeping with the period of the action of the novel.

MILTON'S "Paradise Lost," translated into French by Châteaubriand, with a biographical memoir by De Lamartine, has just been published at Paris in quarto, illustrated with twenty-five line-engravings upon steel.

COUNT D'HUNOLSTEIN has been for some time engaged in editing the unpublished letters of Marie Antoinette, which form an autobiographical record of her life from 1770, when, at the age of fifteen, she was married to Louis XVI, then the Dauphin, to 1792, a year before her execution.

A NEW treatise on the state of ancient navies has appeared at Calvary's in Berlin, entitled "De Veterum Re Navali: scripsit B. Glaser," with woodcuts. The author, the first German after Boeckh who has gone into the matter, endeavours to prove that the form of ancient vessels, on the whole, differed little from our own—less, at all events, than has hitherto been believed by archaeologists. Several other points in connexion with the historical development of the great maritime nations of antiquity and their fleets give the treatise a more general interest than the title would seem to promise. It is a pity that it should be written in Latin, its use thus being confined to a small circle of readers only.

THE famous Lamberti Church in Münster, from the tower of which are suspended the three iron baskets in which Johann von Leyden, Knipperdolling, and Krectwig were carried about the country before their execution, has got shaky, and will be restored shortly. The whole front of the church will be rebuilt and redecorated at the same time.

AT the Basle University Library a most important discovery has been made—a hitherto unknown poem by Sebastian Brandt, the celebrated author of the "Narrenschiff," who lived at Strasburg in the 15th century. The poem dates from the time of his temporary sojourn at Basle, and treats of the first meteor that fell at Ensisheim, in 1492.

"UNSER gegenseitiger Freund" will be the German title of Dickens's new novel. "Gemeinsam," or "Gemeinschaftlich," would have been more in keeping with sense and logic; but the dustman's phrase (for it will be he who will use the obnoxious term "mutual" on p. 96, if we are not mistaken) is not our or the Germans' phrase.

PAUL HEYSE, the German novelist, has a volume of smaller tales in the press entitled "Meraner Novellen."

A NEW and elegant translation into German of the Gulistan of Sadi, "Der Rosengarten des Scheikh Sadi aus Schiraz," by G. H. F. Nesselmann, has been published at Berlin.

HITHERTO the dates given of Meyerbeer's birth were rather doubtful. The day generally given

was the 5th of September, but the year fluctuated in the various necrologies between 1790, 91, 92, and even 94. An official look into the registry, however, has set the doubts at rest. As the day of his birth was found there the 5th Elul, 5551 (= September 5th, 1791), he would thus soon have reached his seventy-third year. Some further curious details in his testament are, that he left nothing to his servants, an annuity of 25,000 thalers to his wife, and to each of his three daughters an annuity of 15,000 thalers. Several foundations, however, have received large donations—e.g., the Association des Auteurs Musicaux and the Société des Auteurs et Compositeurs Dramatiques, each of which receives 10,000 francs. The clause about the MSS. which he left, and which were to be delivered up to that one of his grandchildren who should prove a musical genius, does exist, but with the addition that, in case there should not be such a grandson in existence, the Royal Library at Berlin should become sole heir to his literary remains.

THE following particulars about the Pope's family are given by a Vienna paper:—"Pius IX. has two elder brothers, Count Gabriel Mastai, 84 years, and Count Gaetan, 80 years of age. His sister, Countess Bernini, is 77. His father, Count Hieronymus Mastai, reached an age of 84, his mother of 82, his grandfather, Count Hercules Mastai, of 96 years. The family Mastai is numerous. Count Gabriel has two sons—Lodovico, married to the Princess Del Drago; Hercules, married to the niece of Cardinal Cadolini. Four sisters, of whom one is still alive, gave the Pope a numerous crew of nephews. The family Mastai boasts of never having received anything from the public purse.

"PFAHLBAUTEN"—the mysterious lake-dwellings found within the last few years in Switzerland—have now also been discovered in Bavaria, in the Starnberger See. Professor Desor, from Neufchâtel, an eminent geologist who, in a recent work, "Die Pfahlbauten des Neuenburger Sees," pronounced his decided conviction of the existence of such remnants on the locality where they were now discovered, has taken the first steps towards a further investigation on the spot.

THE Académie des Sciences in Paris has elected, in the place of Barlow, Professor Magnus, from Berlin, as correspondent for the section of general Physical Science. Among the candidates proposed were Dove and Riess in Berlin, Kirchhoff in Heidelberg, Weber in Göttingen, Plücker in Bonn, Jacobi in St. Petersburg.

DR. PERTZ, the principal librarian of the Royal Library of Berlin, has issued a Report on the history and progress of the "Monumenta Germanie Historica," edited by him and a number of savans for a number of years.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(Anonymous Communications cannot be inserted.)

"I" OR "ME."

To the Editor of THE READER.

Hampstead, June 22nd, 1864.

SIR,—Mr. Ellis asks in your last number, "Does language make grammarians, or do grammarians make language?" I answer—both. In the first instance, *language makes grammarians*, inasmuch as it supplies the materials which the grammarian classifies and reduces to a system, showing, by induction, the general principles upon which the language is constructed. In this process he is not at liberty to reject or condemn anything that he finds in general and approved use. After the grammarian has carried his classifying and systematizing process to its utmost extent, he will find, in every language, a mass of heterogeneous materials which bid defiance to all efforts at generalization. These he can only bring together under the head of Idioms. If language remained stationary, the language of the grammarian would here cease. But language is not stationary: it is ever varying. Old words, forms and expressions are continually going out of use, while new ones are as constantly being introduced. Upon these changes the grammarian exercises his influence, the tendency of grammatical studies being to discourage the use of old and the introduction of new forms and expressions which are not in accordance with the general principles of the language, and to encourage those which are. Here, then, I say that *grammarians make language*.

The title of an expression to be recognised as a part of a language is not established by its general use by a certain class, especially an uneducated one; nor by its use by old writers, who, unsophisticated not only by Lindley Murrays, but by

# THE READER.

25 JUNE, 1864.

## SCIENCE.

### GENERAL SABINE ON MAGNETIC DISTURBANCES.

**A**MONG the important memoirs recently presented to the Royal Society, one by its distinguished President on Magnetic Disturbances—a subject he has made his own—is of especial value. In addition to passing under review the labours of the Berlin and Göttingen Associations, the British investigations, and the comparison of the Kew observations with those made at Pekin and Nertschinsk, General Sabine makes a further comparison of the most notable disturbances at Kew and Nertschinsk during 1858 and 1859; and the application of the same method of research to which we owe the discovery of the *decennial variation* has led him to more than suspect another secular change, referable to direct solar influence operating in a cycle of yet unknown duration.

The Berlin Association, formed under the auspices of Baron Alexander von Humboldt, consisted of observers in very distant parts of the European continent, by whom the precise direction of the declination-magnet was recorded simultaneously at hourly intervals of absolute time, at forty-four successive hours at eight concerted periods of the year, which thence obtained the name of "Magnetic Terms." By the comparison of these hourly observations it became known that the declination was subject to very considerable fluctuations, happening on days which seemed to be casual and irregular, but were the same at all the stations, consequently over the continent of Europe generally. This conclusion was confirmed by the Göttingen Association, established at the instance and under the superintendence of MM. Gauss and Weber, by whom the "Term-observations" were extended to six periods in the year, each of twenty-four hours duration, the records being made at intervals of five minutes. The number of the stations at which these observations were made was about twenty, distributed generally over the continent of Europe, but not extending beyond it. They were continued from 1834 to 1841. The observations themselves, as well as the conclusions drawn from them by MM. Gauss and Weber, were published in the well-known periodical entitled "Resultate aus der Beobachtung des magnetischen Vereins." The synchronous character of the disturbances, over the whole area comprehended by the Association, was thoroughly confirmed: the disturbing action was found to be so considerable as to occasion frequently a partial, and sometimes even a total obliteration of the regular diurnal movements, and to be of such general prevalence over the greater part of Europe, not only in the larger, but in most of the smaller oscillations, as to make it in a very high degree improbable that they could have either a local or an atmospherical origin. No connexion or correspondence was traceable between the indications of the magnetical and meteorological instruments; nor had the state of the weather any perceptible influence. It happened very frequently that either an extremely quiescent state of the needle or a very regular and uniform progress was preserved during the prevalence of the most violent storm; and as with wind-storms, so with thunder-storms, as even when close at hand they appeared to exercise no perceptible influence on the magnet. At some of the most active of the Göttingen stations the fluctuations of the horizontal force were observed contemporaneously with those of the declination-magnet, by means of the bifilar magnetometer devised by M. Gauss: both elements were generally disturbed on the same days and at the same hours. The magnitude of the disturbances appeared to diminish as their action was traced from north to south, giving rise to the conclusion that the focus whence the most powerful disturbances in the northern hemisphere emanated might perhaps be successfully sought in parts of the globe to the north or north-west of the area comprehended by the stations. The intercomparison of the records obtained at the different stations showed moreover that the same element was very differently affected at the same hours at different stations, and that occasionally the same disturbance showed itself in different elements at different stations. The general conclusion was therefore thus drawn by M. Gauss, that "we are compelled to admit that, on the same day and at the same hour, various forces are contemporaneously in action, which are probably quite independent of one another and have very different sources, and that the effects of these various forces are intermixed in very dissimilar proportions at various places of observation

relatively to the position and distance of these latter; or these effects may pass one into the other, one beginning to act before the other has ceased. The disentangling of the complications which thus occur in the phenomena at every individual station will undoubtedly prove very difficult. Nevertheless we may confidently hope that these difficulties will not always remain insuperable, when the simultaneous observations shall be much more widely extended. It will be a triumph of science should we at some future time succeed in arranging the manifold intricacies of the phenomena, in separating the individual forces of which they are the compound result, and in assigning the source and measure of each."

In the British investigations, which commenced in 1840, the field of research was extended so as to include the most widely separated localities in both hemispheres, selected chiefly with reference to diversity of geographical circumstances, or to magnetic relations of prominent interest. Suitable instruments were provided for the observation of each of the three magnetic elements; the scheme of research comprehended not alone the casual and irregular fluctuations which had occupied the chief attention of the German associations, but also "the actual distribution of the magnetic influence over the globe at the present epoch in its mean or average state, together with all that is not permanent in the phenomena, whether it appear in the form of momentary, daily, monthly, semiannual, or annual change, or in progressive changes receiving compensation possibly, either in whole or in part, in cycles of unknown relation and unknown period." The magnetic disturbances to which the notices in the present paper are limited form a small but important branch of this extensive inquiry, and are referred to in the instructions prepared by the Royal Society in terms which are recalled by its eminent President on the present occasion, because they are explanatory of the principles on which the co-ordination of the results obtained in such distant parts of the world has been conducted, and the conclusions derived from them established. In pages 2 and 3 of the Report embodying the instructions drawn up by the Royal Society it is stated that "the investigation of the laws, extent, and mutual relations of the casual and transitory variations is become essential to the successful prosecution of magnetic discovery . . . because the theory of those transitory changes is in itself one of the most interesting and important points to which the attention of magnetic observers can be turned, as they are no doubt intimately connected with the general causes of terrestrial magnetism, and will probably lead us to a much more perfect knowledge of those causes than we now possess." In the opinion thus expressed, General Sabine, who was himself one of the committee by whom the Report was drawn up, fully concurred; and, having been appointed by Her Majesty's Government to superintend the observations made at the British Colonial observatories, and to co-ordinate and publish their results, he has endeavoured to show in this paper that the methods pursued have been in strict conformity with these instructions, and also that the conclusions derived are in accordance with the anticipations expressed therein.

Inferences regarding the "general causes of terrestrial magnetism" must be based upon the knowledge we possess of the actual distribution of the magnetic influence on the surface of the globe, since that is the only part which is accessible to us. In regard to this distribution the Report itself refers continually to two works, then recently published, as containing the embodiment of the totality of the known phenomena—viz., a "Memoir on the Variations of the Magnetic Force in different parts of the Earth's Surface," published in 1838 in the Reports of the British Association, and M. Gauss's "Allgemeine Theorie des Erdmagnetismus," published in 1839. In both these works the facts, as far as they had been ascertained, were conformable in their main features to the theory, first announced by Dr. Halley in his Papers in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1683 and 1693, of a double system of magnetic action, the direction and intensity of the magnetic force being, at all points of the earth's surface, the resultants of the two systems. In both these works the poles, or points of greatest force (in the northern hemisphere), were traced nearly to the same localities—viz., one in the northern parts of the American continent, and the other in the northern parts of the Europeo-Asiatic continent—their geographical positions, as taken from M. Gauss's "Allgemeine Theorie," being, in

grammarians, properly so called, wrote as they spoke; nor by its use by writers of fiction, who designedly put into the mouths of their *dramatis personæ* language characteristic of them; nor by a few isolated instances only even in modern writers writing in *propria persona*.

Mr. Ellis's examples are all unfortunate. The first, "This shy creature, my brother says, is me," is evidently a colloquial expression. Is all the language of Charles Dickens's characters to be recognised as English and his name adduced as authority? The second, from Addison, "It is not me you are in love with," is strictly grammatical according to the rule I have laid down. "Me" is not the predicate, but governed by the preposition "with." The third is from Sydney Smith—"If there is one character more base than another, it is him who," &c. Now, although no one would see down Sydney Smith as a vulgar writer, there are few, I apprehend, who would say that he was a careful one; and, if he could be brought from his grave to pronounce judgment on the sentence above, my belief is that he would acknowledge it as a slip of the pen. Can Mr. Ellis produce a single instance from Macaulay, or half a dozen instances from all the acknowledged good writers of the present century, where it is not the language of a character?

Mr. Ellis's attack on "I" savours too much of the partisan. If everything not Teutonic is "uncouth," "monstrous," and "unnatural" he will find much in the English language to offend him. "It is me" is no more Teutonic than "It is I," and is quite as much a neologism. To be Teutonic he must go back to Chaucer's "Ich am I" (German, "Ich bin es"), which is pure and has a much better and older title than "It is me." Mr. Ellis does his best to make "It is I" appear a monstrosity when he substitutes for the impersonal pronoun in the neuter gender a noun in the masculine which it does not represent. Where is the man that would consent to be called "it"? What would Mr. Ellis substitute for "It" in "It rains," "It snows," and other similar impersonal forms in order to test their "monstrosity"? The uncouthness, Mr. Ellis asserts, arises from "I" being used as a predicate. Will "me" do better? Try. The verb *to be* being merely a copula, subject and predicate are interchangeable. "That man is I" = "I am that man." "That man is me" = "Me am that man." Is this less uncouth? The uncouthness of the former expression is not in the language, but in the idea. Mr. Ellis says: "I cannot find *I* used as a predicate anywhere but in this new English phrase 'It is I.'" He might say the same of every noun and pronoun. The obvious reason is that the verb *to be* is the only pure copula. That other languages do not use a predicate in the corresponding expressions is no reason why we should not, or why we should use an ungrammatical form in preference to a grammatical one.

To my facetious critic Mr. Moon, who has gone off at a right angle from the matter in hand to dispute the propriety of my speaking of noise as a part of a military display, I have only to say that, if he can persuade military and naval men to his view, and induce them to dispense with the use of powder in all future reviews, sham fights, and salutes, he will deserve the thanks of his country for the saving thereby effected, and I will humbly acknowledge my error.—I am, &c.,

F. L. SOPER.

#### WHAT IS A PREDICATE?

To the Editor of THE READER.

Working Men's College, 18th June, 1864.

SIR,—Though wishing not to bore you further with the *Me* and *I* controversy, I still ask space to remark on one sentence of Mr. A. J. Ellis's letter. He says:—"I cannot find *I* used as a predicate anywhere but in this new English phrase 'It is I.'" Take Mark xiv. 19, 'Is it I?' And this sentence, "Is it I?" he actually brings forward as not containing *I* in the predicate. In the name of common sense, where else is the *I*? The subject of the sentence is *it*, the verb of the predicate is *is*, and its complement *I*—just as plainly as if the assertion were "It is I," the interrogation being matter of position and accent, and not affecting the grammatical analysis of the sentence. Mr. Ellis's own evidence disproves his case.

There can be no question among people rightly taught that *It is I* is the right phrase so long as, "according to our present notions of grammar" (to repeat my former phrase), *I* is the nominative and *me* the objective of the 1st pronoun. When those notions are altered to Professor Key's, and *me* recognised as the nominative, then *It is me* will be grammatically right, as it is personally modest.

A BELIEVER IN ANALYSIS.

25 JUNE, 1864.

America, lat.  $55^{\circ}$ , long.  $263^{\circ}$  E., and in Siberia lat.  $71^{\circ}$ , long.  $116^{\circ}$  E. Combining, then, the expectation expressed in the Report of "a probable connexion existing between the casual and transitory magnetic variations and the general phenomena of terrestrial magnetism" with M. Gauss's conclusion from the Göttingen researches, that "the sources of the magnetic disturbances in Europe might possibly be successfully sought in parts of the globe to the north or to the north-west of the European continent," it seemed reasonable to anticipate that a connexion might be found to exist between the "points of origin" of the disturbances, if these could be more precisely ascertained, and the critical localities of the earth's magnetism above referred to. To put this question to the test, the first step was to ascertain, in a more satisfactory way than had been previously attempted, the laws of the disturbances themselves. The process by which a portion of the observations exhibiting the effects of the disturbing action in a very marked degree may be separated from the others, and subjected to a suitable analysis for the determination of their general laws, has been fully described elsewhere. The immediate effect of its application was to show that, casual and irregular as the disturbances might appear to be in the times of their occurrence, they were, in their mean effects, strictly periodical phenomena, characterized by laws distinct from those of any other periodical phenomena with which we were then acquainted, and traceable directly to the sun as their primary source, inasmuch as they were found to be governed everywhere by laws depending upon the solar hours. To those who are familiar with the theory by which the passage of light from the sun to the earth is explained, an analogous transmission of magnetic influences from the sun to the earth may appear to present no particular difficulty. It is when the influences reach the earth that the modes of their reception, distribution, and transmission are less clearly seen and understood; but these are within our own proper terrestrial domain and sphere of research; and accordingly it was to these that the author's attention was directed. Wherever the disturbances had been observed and were analyzed, it was found that those of the declination were occasionally deflections to the east and occasionally deflections to the west of the mean position of the magnet, and those of the horizontal and vertical forces occasionally increased and occasionally diminished the respective forces. The disturbances of each element were therefore separated into two categories, according as they belonged to one or to the other class. Each category was found to present diurnal progressions, of systematic regularity, but quite distinct from one another, and so far in accordance with M. Gauss's inference of the existence of various forces contemporaneously in action, independent of one another, and having different originating sources. Confining our view, for simplicity, to one alone of the elements—viz., the declination, its two categories (of easterly and of westerly deflection) presented, wherever they were examined, the same distinctive features; the local hours or maximum and minimum varied at different stations, but the same two dissimilar forms were everywhere presented by the curves representing the two diurnal progressions.

Having thus traced apparently two sources in which the disturbances might be supposed to originate, the possible connexion of these with the points of maximum attraction in the two systems of the magnetic terrestrial distribution presented itself as the next object of fitting research. It was inferred that, if two stations were selected in nearly the same latitude, but situated one decidedly on the eastern side, and the other decidedly on the western side of one of the points referred to, the curve of the easterly deflection at the one station would perhaps be found to correspond with the curve of westerly deflection at the other station at the same hours of absolute time, and vice versa. The Kew photographs in the five years 1858 to 1862 supplied the necessary data for one of the two stations—viz., the one to the west of the point of maximum attraction of one of the two magnetic systems—whilst Pekin, where hourly observations from 1851 to 1855 inclusive are recorded in the "Annales de l'Observatoire Central Physique de Russie," might supply a station on the eastern side. As this comparison might be regarded somewhat in the light of a crucial experiment, the reliance to which the Pekin observations were entitled was examined by the very delicate test afforded by re-writing the observations recorded at solar hours in hours of lunar time, and examining the lunar-

diurnal variation thence derived. When this is found to come out systematically and well, and similarly in different years, the observations which have furnished it may be safely regarded as trustworthy. The Pekin observations corresponded satisfactorily to this test, and in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1863, Art. XII., the comparison was made of the Kew and Pekin disturbance deflections, the result showing that "the conical form and single maximum which characterize the curve of the easterly deflections at Kew characterize the curve of the westerly deflections at Pekin at approximately the same hours of absolute time." For a further trial of this important result a second comparison of the same kind was made, being that of the curves of the disturbance-deflections at Nertschinsk from 1851 to 1857, also recorded in the "Annales de l'Observatoire," &c., with those from 1858 to 1862 at Kew. Nertschinsk is about  $12^{\circ}$  north of Pekin, and is nearly in the same longitude as that station, whilst its latitude is almost identical with that of Kew. The Nertschinsk observations were subjected to the same test in respect to accuracy as those of Pekin, and with a similarly satisfactory result. The comparison of the disturbance-deflections showed a still more perfect accord between the curves representing the easterly deflections at Kew and the westerly at Nertschinsk at approximately the same hours of absolute time.

The present paper contains a further comparison of the nearly synchronous disturbances at Kew and at Nertschinsk on the days of the most notable disturbance at both stations in 1858 and 1859, the comparison being limited to those two years inasmuch as the Kew record did not commence until January 1858, whilst the hourly observations at Nertschinsk for 1860 and subsequent years have not yet reached England. The deflections at Nertschinsk from the normals of the same month and hour, on forty-four days in 1858 and 1859, are given in a table similar in all respects to the table in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1863, showing the deflections on the most notable days of disturbance at Kew in the same years. The comparison of the two tables is discussed in some detail; but it is sufficient to state here that the general conclusions are quite in accordance with those arrived at in the previous comparisons.

The steps by which General Sabine was led to a discovery of the decennial variation in the magnetic disturbances, and to its identification in period and epochs with the variation in the magnitude and frequency of the sun-spots resulting from the observations of M. Schwabe since their commencement in 1826, are too well-known to need repetition on this occasion. But they furnish the ground on which, in this paper, he has for the first time suggested the possibility that a cosmical connexion of a somewhat similar nature may be hereafter recognised as the origin and source of one of the two magnetic systems which co-operate in producing the general phenomena of the variations of the magnetic direction and force in different parts of the globe. The author's suggestion is that the one of the two systems which is distinguished by its possessing a systematic and continuous movement of geographical translation, thereby giving rise to the phenomena of the secular change, may be referable to direct solar influence operating in a cycle of yet unknown duration. The phenomena of the secular change in the earth's magnetism have hitherto received no satisfactory explanation whatsoever; and they have all the characters befitting what we might suppose to be the effects of a cosmical cause. Some of the objections which might have impeded the reception of such an hypothesis before we had learnt to recognise in the sun itself a source of magnetic energy, and to identify magnetic variations observed on the earth with physical changes which manifest themselves to our sight in the photosphere of the sun, are no longer tenable. It is true that we do not yet possess similar ocular evidence of a solar cycle of the much longer duration which would correspond to the secular change in the distribution of terrestrial magnetism. But careful observations of the variable aspects of the solar disc can only be said to be in their commencement, and it would be premature to assume that no visible phenomena will be discovered in the sun which will render the evidence of connexion as complete in the one case as in the other. Such evidence, however, is not a necessary condition of an existing connexion; the decennial period would have been equally true (though not so readily perceived by us) if the sun-spots had been less conspicuous.

# ON THE METAL INDIUM AND RECENT DISCOVERIES IN SPECTRUM-ANALYSIS.

PROFESSOR ROSCOE, in a discourse under this title, recently delivered at the Royal Institution, has shown us in a striking manner what has been accomplished by the spectroscopy since the spring of 1862, when he delivered a course of three lectures in the same theatre on the then recent Spectrum Discoveries. Thus we find that no less than four new elementary bodies have already been discovered by means of spectrum-analysis: Cæsium and Rubidium, by Bunsen; Thallium, by Mr. Crookes; and Indium, by Reich and Richter of Freiberg; whilst the foundations of Solar Chemistry, laid by Kirchhoff, have been rendered more secure by the observations of Cooke, in America; Donati, in Italy; and Miller and Huggins, in England.

Cæsium and rubidium, at first only found in one or two mineral waters, have since been shown to be widely distributed in the vegetable as well as in the mineral kingdom; they have been obtained in considerable quantities from the beet-root salt, and found in the ashes of tea and coffee—thus proving that they occur commonly in soil; whilst, quite recently, M. Pisani has found that a mineral called pollux, occurring in Elba, contains 34 per cent. of cæsium, this metal having been mistaken for potash in the analyses which had previously been made of this substance. Thallium and its compounds have been obtained in large quantities, and their properties fully investigated by Crookes and Lamy; whilst this metal has not only been found in iron pyrites, but also in large quantities, by Schrötter, in the mica of Zinnwald, and in lepidolite from Moravia. Thallium has been shown by Boettger to occur, together with cæsium and rubidium, in the mineral water of Nauheim, near Frankfort; Boettger has, moreover, shown that thallium is contained in the vegetable kingdom: he has found it in the yeast of the vinous fermentation; so that thallium exists in wine, also in treacle, tobacco, and chicory. If 4 lbs. of any of these substances are employed, a sufficient quantity of thallium can be obtained as the double platinum-chloride to enable its presence to be easily detected. Professor Bunsen has found a mother liquor from the Hartz which contains so much thallium that the iodide can be obtained by direct precipitation in quantity at the rate of 10s. per lb.

Drs. Reich and Richter of Freiberg, in Saxony, have lately discovered a fourth new metal in the Freiberg zinc blende. (*Phil. Mag.* for March, 1864. Series 4, vol. xxvii. p. 199.) This metal has been termed Indium, from the two splendid indigo-blue lines which characterize its spectrum. In its chemical relations it resembles zinc, with which it is associated in nature; the metal can be reduced before the blowpipe to a malleable bead, when it forms a soft, ductile bead, which imparts streaks to paper on rubbing, and possesses a colour lighter than that of lead, being about the same as that of tin. The metallic bead dissolves in hydrochloric acid with the evolution of hydrogen. The oxide of indium is formed as a yellow fusible incrustation when the metal is heated before the blowpipe on charcoal. Indium differs from zinc in the insolubility of the hydrated oxide in excess of both ammonia and caustic potash. This new element may be separated from all the known metals by precipitating its sulphide in alkaline solution, and by throwing down the hydrated oxide first with ammonia and then with caustic potash; and, lastly, by precipitating the iron with dilute solution of bicarbonate of sodium. The hydrated oxide of indium then remains in solution in the pure state. Indium may be readily detected when present in its pure compounds by the deep purple tint which these impart to flame. The characteristic lines are, however, best seen when a small bead of indium salt is placed between two poles, from which an electric spark passes; the lines  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  fall respectively upon divisions 107.5 and 140 of the photographic scale of the spectroscopy, when  $\text{Na} = 50$ , and  $\text{Sr} \delta = 100.5$ . Up to the present time indium has been only found in the very smallest quantity, and hence the atomic weight of the metal and the composition of its salts have not yet been determined; in fact, the speaker was led to infer that Professor Richter sent him nearly all the compound of the metal remaining from the investigation of its properties for the purpose of illustrating this discourse. It has only as yet been detected in the zinc blende of Freiberg; but it will, doubtless, soon be discovered in larger quantities, and its compounds more closely studied.

After referring to the recent observations of Dr. Miller, Mr. Huggins, Professor Stokes, and

Dr. Robinson, it was remarked that the original statement made by Bunsen and Kirchhoff concerning the spectra of the metals still remains unopposed by a single well-established fact—the statement, namely, that, when a metal is heated up to a certain point, the spectrum of its incandescent vapour contains a number of fine bright lines which do not change their position with increase of temperature, and are not coincident with the lines of any other known substance. There is, however, no doubt of the fact that, in the spectra of certain metals or metallic compounds, new lines are developed by increase of temperature; and also that certain metals—as calcium, barium, and strontium—yield spectra of two kinds; one of these, seen at the lower temperature, and consisting of broad bands, being resolved at a higher temperature into bright lines. These bright lines do not undergo any further change on elevation of temperature, and characterize the true metallic spectrum, whilst the band-spectrum is probably produced by the incandescent vapour of a metallic compound which is decomposed at a higher temperature.

A singular relation with regard to what have been termed the carbon lines was observed by Professor Roscoe. It has been stated that all the various forms of carbon compounds, when in the state of incandescent gas, yield identical spectra. This proves not to be the case: the spectrum obtained from the flame of olefant gas is different from that obtained by the electric discharge through a vacuum of the same gas; whilst the spark passing through a cyanogen vacuum produces a spectrum identical with that of the olefant gas-flame, and through the carbonic oxide vacuum a spectrum coincident with that of the spark through olefant gas vacuum.

Professor Roscoe described, as an illustration of the application of abstract scientific principles to useful practical purposes, his application of spectrum-analysis to the manufacture of steel by the Bessemer process. One of the great drawbacks to the successful practical working of this process has been the difficulty of determining the exact point at which the blast of air passing through the molten metal is to be stopped. The conversion of five tons of cast-iron into cast-steel usually occupies from fifteen to twenty minutes, according to the varying conditions of the weather, quality of the iron, strength of the blast, &c.; but, if the blast be continued for ten seconds after the proper point has been attained, or if it be discontinued ten seconds before that point is reached, the charge becomes either so viscid that it cannot be poured from the converting vessel into the moulds, or it contains so much carbon as to crumble under the hammer. Up to the present time the manufacturer has judged of the condition of the metal by the general appearance of the flame which issues from the mouth of the converting vessel. Long experience enables the workman thus to detect, with more or less exactitude, the point at which the blast must be cut off. At the request of Messrs. John Brown & Co. of the Atlas Works, Sheffield, Professor Roscoe investigated the subject, and succeeded in obtaining very satisfactory and interesting results.

The light which is given off by the flame in this process is most intense; indeed, a more magnificent example of combustion in oxygen cannot be imagined—and a cursory examination of the flame-spectrum in its various phases reveals complicated masses of dark absorption bands and bright lines, showing that a variety of substances are present in the flame in the state of incandescent gas. By a simultaneous comparison of these lines in the flame-spectrum with the well-known spectra of certain elementary bodies, the speaker has succeeded in detecting the presence of the following substances in the Bessemer flame:—Sodium, potassium, lithium, iron, carbon, phosphorus, hydrogen, and nitrogen.

A further investigation with an instrument of higher dispersive and magnifying powers than that employed will doubtless add to the above list; and an accurate and prolonged study of this spectrum will probably yield very important information respecting the nature of the reactions occurring within the vessel. Already the investigation is so far advanced that the point in the condition of the metal at which it has been found necessary to stop the blast can be ascertained with precision; and thus, by the application of the principles of spectrum-analysis, that which previously depended on the quickness of vision of a skilled eye has become a matter of exact scientific observation.

Another interesting practical application of our knowledge concerning the properties of the kind of light which certain bodies emit when heated

is the employment of the light evolved by burning magnesium wire for photographic purposes. The spectrum of this light is exceedingly rich in violet and ultra-violet rays, due partly to the incandescent vapour of magnesium, and partly to the intensely-heated magnesia formed by the combustion. Professor Bunsen and the speaker in 1859 determined the chemically active power possessed by this light, and compared it with that of the sun; and they suggested the application of this light for the purpose of photography. They showed (*Phil. Trans.*, 1859, p. 920) that a burning surface of magnesium wire, which, seen from a point at the sea's level, has an apparent magnitude equal to that of the sun, effects on that point the same chemical action as the sun would do if shining from a cloudless sky at a height of 9° 53' above the horizon. On comparing the visible brightness of these two sources of light, it was found that the brightness of the sun's disc, as measured by the eye, is 524.7 times as great as that of the burning magnesium wire when the sun's zenith distance is 67° 22'; whilst at the same zenith distance the sun's chemical brightness is only 36.6 times as great. Hence the value of this light as a source of the chemically active rays for photographic purposes becomes at once apparent.

It was stated in the memoir above referred to that "the steady and equable light evolved by magnesium wire burning in the air, and the immense chemical action thus produced, render this source of light valuable as a simple means of obtaining a given amount of chemical illumination, and that the combustion of this metal constitutes so definite and simple a source of light for the purpose of photo-chemical measurement that the wide distribution of magnesium becomes desirable. The application of this metal as a source of light may even become of technical importance. A burning magnesium wire of the thickness of 0.297 millimetre evolves, according to the measurement we have made, as much light as 74 stearine candles of which five go to the pound. If this light lasted one minute, 0.987 metre of wire, weighing 0.120 grammes, would be burnt. In order to produce a light equal to 74 candles burning for ten hours, whereby about 20 lbs. of stearine is consumed, 72.2 grammes (2½ ounces) of magnesium would be required. The magnesium wire can be easily prepared by forcing out the metal from a heated steel press having a fine opening at bottom; this wire might be rolled up in coils on a spindle, which could be made to revolve by clockwork, and thus the end of the wire, guided by passing through a groove or between rollers, could be continually pushed forward into a gas or spirit-lamp flame in which it would burn."

The foregoing suggestion had now been actually carried out. Mr. Edward Sonstadt has succeeded in preparing magnesium on the large scale; and great credit is due to this gentleman for the able manner in which he has brought the difficult subject of the metallurgy of magnesium to its present very satisfactory position.

Some fine specimens of crude and distilled magnesium weighing 3lbs. were exhibited as manufactured by Mr. Sonstadt's process, by Messrs. Mellor & Co. of Manchester.

The wire is now to be had at the comparatively low rate of 3d. per foot; \* and half-an-inch of the wire evolves on burning light enough to transfer a positive image to a dry collodion plate; whilst, by the combustion of ten grains, a perfect photographic portrait may be taken; so that the speaker believed that, for photographic purposes alone, the magnesium light will prove most important. The photochemical power of the light was indeed illustrated by taking a portrait of Professor Faraday during the course of the lecture. In this Mr. Brothers of Manchester, who was the first to use the light for portraiture, assisted Professor Roscoe.

## THE DINORNIS.

At the last meeting of the Linnean Society the Fellows were delighted by the exhibition of some bones and photographs of a specimen of a *Dinornis* brought to their notice by Mr. Allis, the venerable Vice-President of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. The skeleton to which the bones belong is perfect, with the exception of the following bones:—the left zygomatic, the atlas, two, three, or more of the cervical vertebrae, the first pair of dorsal ribs, the first pair of sternal ribs, one of the rudimentary wings, and the middle left toe. Out of the nine left ribs seven are still *in situ*, one is detached, and one is wanting; the sternum is perfect, and as fresh to

\* From Messrs. Johnson and Matthey of Hatton Garden.

appearance as though the bird had been alive last year; the inner left toe has the whole of the outer sole still adhering to it, as well as part of the sole of the foot. On the lower part of the back is still a considerable portion of the outer skin studded with the quill part of the feathers, and in one or two rare instances portions of the web of the feather. One fibula has also a portion of outer skin still attached. The bones of the neck all show greater or less marks of having been within reach of the destructive effects of atmospheric influence, while the head at one extremity, and the first dorsal vertebra at the other, are each as perfect as though they had been taken from a fresh-killed bird by the most skilful anatomist: all the bones below the first dorsal are in the same perfect and uninjured state. The skeleton was presented to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society by J. Haydock Gibson, Esq., M.D., of York, whose brother, a resident of New Zealand, sent it with the statement that it was discovered in a sand-hill, sitting on its eggs, by some diggers about 100 miles up the country from Dumedin, to which place it was sent for sale. When the boxes were opened it was thought only to contain the bones of an adult bird; but, when the bones were taken out, it was discovered that a number of small bones belonging to very young birds, offspring of the adult, were also there; of these there were five iliac bones, four from one side of the bird and a single one from the other side—thus proving that we have at least one bone of five different individuals. There are also one ischium and os pubis united, the half of a very young sternum, and several ribs.

## THE FRENCH ASTRONOMICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

A SHORT time back (READER, p. 526) we announced the formation in Paris of an association for the advancement of Astronomy and Meteorology, the director of the Imperial Observatory, M. Le Verrier, being foremost among its founders. The first general meeting was held on the 3rd inst. at the Imperial Observatory, and was attended by about 400 members. Among the business done it was decided that the two discs of flint and crown glass of 75 metres diameter, which have now for some time been in the possession of the Observatory, shall at once be placed in the hands of the optician, as also a disc of 1.25 metres for the construction of a silvered speculum. The Government has offered to defray the cost of finishing one of these large instruments, and has further voted a sum of 15,000 francs to go towards the completion of the second, on condition that the town in which it is to be placed shall contribute 70,000 francs. The destination of the first is not yet decided on, but it was proposed to place it in some town in the south. Although Astronomy has been treated so liberally, Meteorology has not been forgotten; and the Association offer the following prizes:—(1) A prize of 4000 francs for the best essay on the general movements of the atmosphere. The essays are to be written, if possible, in French, and must be in the hands of the secretary by the 31st of December, 1865. (2) Five prizes of 300 francs each for the five best series of observations made at sea. The observations for the present year are to be sent in by the 31st of December, 1864. (3) Three prizes of 500 francs each for the three best series of meteorological observations taken in localities little known. The records must be deposited with the secretary before the 31st of December, 1865. The two last prizes may be received either wholly or in part in money or instruments. After a vote of thanks had been passed to the telegraphic administration, who had on all occasions rendered valuable assistance, a map showing the number and position of the stations in communication with the central station in Paris was distributed to the members. These stations extend from the shores of the North and Baltic Seas to the Mediterranean and Black Seas, including all the intermediate coasts, and also those of Spain and Portugal. The annual subscription is limited to 10 francs; and, in order to extend the operations of the Society, each member is pledged to enrol another member, who, in his turn, is bound to recruit the ranks to a similar extent.

## SECONDARY MAMMALIA.

THE announcement that Mr. Boyd Dawkins of the Geological Survey had discovered a tooth of a small mammal allied to the Kangaroo at in the Rhœtic beds of Watchet has attracted during the past fortnight much attention amongst palæontologists. At the Geological Society, where the description of the specimen was read,

the greatest possible interest was excited; and, although there may be a doubt as to the precise family of Marsupials to which the new *Hypsi-prymnopsis rheticus*, Dawkins, can be referred—whether, in point of fact, it may not be nearer allied to the *Microlestes* of Plieninger (best known to Englishmen through the researches of Mr. Charles Moore)—there can be no doubt whatever of the interest to be attached to the discovery now made. A retrospect of our present knowledge of Secondary Mammalia may now be interesting. The (Triassic) bone-beds of Würtemberg and at Anst Cliff in Gloucestershire afford us evidence of the diminutive *Microlestes*; in the Richmond coal-field we have Dr. Emmon's *Dromatherium sylvestre*; at Biegerloch was found the *Tristichodon* of Dr. Falconer, one of the most remarkable and aberrant forms, dissimilar in its characters of dentition to any known mammal, extinct or existing, unless possibly the slight analogy which the ternate division of its tooth-cusps bears to *Stereognathus* can be taken into account; *Stereognathus ooliticus* itself appears in the oolites; where also are to be found the *Amphitherium Prevostii*, the *Amphilestes Broderipii*, and the *Phascolotherium Bucklandi*, allied to the *Myrmecobii* of the existing Antipodes. Higher up in the Purbeck series the new mammalia are so numerous that it would be premature to discuss the whole nature of the evidences which were discovered by Messrs. Brodie and Beckles, and described by Dr. Falconer and Professor Owen. Such forms as *Plagiaulax*, *Spalacotherium*, or *Triconodon*, are of the highest interest to paleontologists. Whether we interpret the *Plagiaulax* by the analogy of *Hylacoleo*, and consider it to have been carnivorous, or by the affinities which it undoubtedly bears to the existing *Hypsiptymnus*, and classify it as a vegetable feeder, or whether we compare it, e.g., with such forms as the pigmy *Dactylopsila*, discovered by Mr. Wallace in the Aru islands (*Proc. Zool. Society*, 1858, p. 109), there exists much scope for discussion; and we can only rejoice that it is especially to Englishmen that the discovery of all these remarkable forms in Mesozoic strata is due.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

We learn from *Les Mondes* that the Minister of Public Instruction has authorized the French Academy to draw upon the funds of the Monthyon prize to the extent of 1500 francs, and to place them at the disposal of M. Lartet. We are delighted to learn that M. Lartet, who has already done such good work in the bone-caves of Southern France, in conjunction with our countryman, Mr. Christy, is to continue his researches with increased encouragement.

We refer our readers to a letter from Mr. De La Rue, which they will find in another column, informing us that it is actually true that he was compelled to insure Willis's Rooms for £20,000 before the electric light could be exhibited at the *Soirée* last Saturday week. We should like to hear from the sapient directors of the Insurance Company their idea of the real source of danger. Possibly it is the combination of the words "batteries" and "sparks" which has proved too much for them. Or, again, we should like to hear whether they have taken the trouble to inquire into the comparative danger of the electric and (say) a camphine, or even a paraffin, lamp—if, indeed, they ever heard of the former. The thing is ridiculous, and fit only for a "point" in the wildest pantomime. It would almost be a charity to give the name of the Insurance Office guilty of such an absurdity.

The Commission charged by the French Academy to prepare a list of candidates for the foreign associateship, vacant by the death of Mitscherlich, have submitted the following list:—First rank, *ex æquo*—De La Rive and Wöhler; second rank—Agassiz, Airy, Bunsen, V. Martius, Murchison, Struve. M. Magnus has been elected to the place of Corresponding Member vacant by the death of Mr. Barlow, MM. Dove, Henry, Jacobi, Joule, Kirchhoff, Blücher, Reiss, Stokes, and Weber being among those proposed for the honour.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are determined not to let the vivisection question rest, and have offered a premium of £50 for the best essay showing whether or not vivisection is necessary, either for giving dexterity to the operator or for general scientific purposes. In the report for 1863, just published, there is also a chapter devoted to the subject, in which, among other things, the proposed reply of the Commission of the French Academy to the London Society, and the actual reply proposed by M. Gosselin, are given.

A HIGHLY-INTERESTING meeting of the Ethnological Society was held on Tuesday last, at which Mr. Christy read a paper on the human and other relics from the Dordogne caves. We hope to give a full report next week.

DR. JOULIN has recently published a most valuable memoir on the form of the pelvis in man and the other mammalia, in which he enunciates conclusions in favour of the primitive diversity in type of the human pelvis from that of the anthropoid apes. As these opinions are at variance with those commonly expressed by anatomists, we have no doubt that much attention will be attracted to this memoir.

We learn from the *Medical Times* that the medical practitioners of Lyons, following the example given them last year by those of Rouen, have determined to hold a Medical Congress. The time fixed is September 26 and five consecutive days. The following questions will be discussed:—1. Sanguineous concretions in the heart and vessels: the conditions favouring them, the symptoms to which they give rise, and the therapeutical indications. 2. Can we at the present time admit into the nosological scheme as morbid entities the different paralytic affections recently described under the names of *shaking palsy*, *progressive wasting palsy*, *ataxie locomotrice*, *reflex paralysis*, &c.?—does there run through these a symptom common to different diseases of the nervous centres? 3. Establish by exact facts the curability of phthisis, and distinguish among the varieties of this disease those which are and those which are not susceptible of cure. 4. The value of the different modes of treating complete and incomplete ankylosis, both with regard to change of position and re-establishment of motion. 5. What progress in surgery is due to modern researches on the osseous system? 6. The modes of diæresis which can be most advantageously substituted for the cutting instrument, with the view of avoiding the accidents consequent on wounds. (Cauterisation, *écrasement*, ligature, *arrachement*.) 7. On consanguinity in general, and especially on consanguineous marriages. 8. The production of parasites common to man and animals, especially in relation to public hygiene. 9. The nature of the contagion in the economy of a syphilitic subject, and the practical consequences to be deduced. 10. What are the services to be demanded from the forceps, and how far do the different varieties which have been invented fulfil the various indications? 11. The possibility and propriety of removing certain categories of the insane from asylums, and placing them either in agricultural establishments or in their own families. 12. Of the value of iridectomy in glaucoma and other deep-seated lesions of the globe of the eye. Two of these subjects will be discussed in the order above mentioned on each of the six days on which the Congress is held; and any person having communications to make upon any of them must apprise the Committee, and forward his paper, or an abstract of it, at least forty-eight hours before the opening of the Congress. Letters to be addressed to the *Président de la Commission Exécutive*, M. le Dr. Barrier, 26, Rue du Péral, Lyon. No payment is required from medical practitioners not inhabitants of Lyons.

THE question of spontaneous generation *versus* panspermism should soon be settled. MM. Pouchet, Joly, and Masset were to arrive in Paris on the 15th inst. to make their experiments, in conjunction with M. Pasteur, before the Commission of the French Academy.

THE *Revue du Monde*, which is so well and usefully conducted that we should be glad to see something like it among our English magazines, is about to add a feature of some value to its already satisfactory programme in the shape of a meteorological bulletin. Algeria, the Mediterranean region generally, the Antilles, and the Indian Ocean will be comprised in the table, which will give barometric, thermometric, and hygrometric observations, the quantity of rain, amount of evaporation, the weather and wind, at the stations where the observations are made.

M. CHACORNAC, by placing a plain mirror outside the object-glass of his telescope in such a manner that the images of an observed and reflected star may be visible at the same time as the focus, has recently made some valuable observations on the relative brilliancy of different stars. *Sirius*, for instance, he finds to be 5.337 times brighter than *Arcturus*—a result which does not differ very widely from the values obtained by Herschel, Kœpler, Laugier, and others.

A LATE number of the *Bulletin de la Société de l'Encouragement* contains a description of a method, the invention of M. Hempel of Paris, for

bringing a balance into perfect equilibrium, the principal weights being already in the pan. In the position usually occupied by the regulating vane he places an index finger, moving horizontally over a light graduated arc fixed at right angles to the upper part of the beam. This finger may be moved on its axis in either direction from the outside by means of a rod, furnished at its outer extremity with a milled head, passing through the case and bent twice at right angles. By turning the milled head, the end of the bent rod inside the case may be moved over every part of the graduated arc, and the index finger may be placed in the position necessary for obtaining perfect equilibrium. Upon releasing the milled head a spiral spring raises the rod above the graduated arc, so as not to interfere with the oscillations of the beam. The value of the graduations on the arc is obtained experimentally. This contrivance, it will be seen, is intended to supersede the "riders" now commonly in use. He also proposes to make the weights of different forms, to avoid the very frequent mistakes which now occur. Thus, supposing the centesimal division to be adopted, the weights representing 1, .1, &c., are to be square; those representing .5, .05, &c., triangular, and .2, .02, &c., oblong, of twice the length of the square weights .1 and .01 respectively.

THE Scientific Congress of France, which took place last year at Chambéry, will this year be held early in August at Troyes (Aube); and the Archæological Congress, which met last year at Rodez and at Albi, will this year meet at Fontenay-le-Comte (La Vendée).

M. MANNOIR has contributed to a recent *Bulletin of the Société de Géographie* an admirable paper on New Zealand, which gives, in a most comprehensive manner, many particulars of great interest regarding that colony, for which he predicts a bright future, as well as a rich harvest to those who shall explore it scientifically.

AMONGST recent Sicilian scientific publications we may mention "*Flora Fossile dell' Etna*," per Francesco Tornabene, a quarto volume of 147 pp. and 10 plates.

WE learn by letters from Borneo that researches on the most extensive scale have recently been carried on with a view to solve the oft-disputed question of the plurality of species amongst the orang-outangs of that island, and that Dr. E. P. Houghton is about to submit a very large collection of skulls of the various varieties or species to English zoologists.

THE sulphur compounds of uranium formed the subject of a note read by M. Remelé before the Académie des Sciences at a recent meeting. He has ascertained that the precipitate formed by the addition of sulphide of ammonium to an aqueous solution of nitrate of uranium is a hydrated sesquioxide of that metal. Rammelsberg supposed it to be a mixture of sulphur and hydrated protoxide, whilst Hermann maintained that it was a sulphide of uranium (US). The product was isolated by precipitation from an alcoholic solution of sesquioxide of uranium, washing with alcohol slightly diluted with water and drying in a vacuum over caustic potash. It has all the characters of a definite compound. On the fact of this discovery he advances some arguments in favour of the existence of the radicle uranyle ( $U_2O_2$ ), as it is called by Peligot. M. Remelé also mentions that he has obtained some double compounds of sulphide of uranyle with the alkaline sulphides.

#### SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

##### ON BOTANICAL AND ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE.

Geneva, June 15.

IT is rather odd that the subject of botanical and zoological nomenclature should have attracted so little attention in this country. Doubtless your article in THE READER (June 11) will lead to further remarks and suggestions. On the Continent there have been some very good rules laid down by what has been called "the Congress of Dresden;" and these, with the comments of members of the French Entomological Society, will, I hope, receive attention from the Committee of the British Association.

Mr. Strickland's rules are generally unobjectionable; but I agree with Dr. Asa Gray that the first rule you have quoted from *Silliman's Journal* (§ 2) and the last two (§ C and § F) are scarcely maintainable. With regard to § 10, that the name should be changed which has been already used either in Zoology or Botany, it is, I fear, asking for more than is likely to be granted,

# THE READER.

25 JUNE, 1864.

although it is certainly very undesirable that an animal and a plant should each bear the same generic name. You see, for instance, the title of a paper in a Natural History journal, "On the Species of Elachista." Is it the plant (an alga) or the animal (a moth) that is the subject of it? Your interest in it depends entirely on the answer. As it is, the rule is anything but attended to in Zoology: the "Vertebratists" especially have taken many names used long ago in other divisions of the animal kingdom; and, on the whole, I do not think they seem to care much about it.

I entirely object to Dr. Asa Gray's opinion that unpublished names ought not to be disregarded, and that "the distribution of named specimens, when and as far as they go is (!) held to be tantamount to publication." On the contrary, I think that every opposition ought to be made to the practice of giving manuscript names—that is to say, when there is no intention of publishing the descriptions by which alone they can be recognised, except by the favoured few who are the recipients of the specimens. In the absence of books I cannot enter into the subject so fully as I could wish, and therefore I will say no more on this point, as I may be only repeating the remarks which the Committee (of 1842) has already made.

Geographical specific names, as a general rule, are, perhaps, chiefly objectionable when some barbarous word, as is frequently the case, enters into their composition—*Oonalschkenensis* or *Sarawakensis*, for examples. Such names seem to me to be given most commonly by those authors who appear to be at a loss in finding any other.

A generic name, even if afterwards cancelled by the law of priority, ought not, I think, to be applied again to another genus. In very few instances, probably, unless the species described by two authors are absolutely identical, will the cancelling be complete; that is, a genus founded on certain species may be considered not to exhibit sufficiently distinctive characters as to entitle it to a separate existence from a previously existent genus founded on other species. The second generic name is therefore disposable, and in due time is appropriated to something different; but, supposing that hereafter, on closer examination, a good character is discovered for the rejected genus, and it is consequently necessary to restore it, what is to be done for its name? As an example, to show that this is not an imaginary case—and I think it would not be difficult to find many more—there is the Coleopterous genus *Erihrinus*, which has for years been united with *Dorytomus*, but which Professor Lacordaire has recently shown to be perfectly distinct. Fortunately, the name had not been appropriated. Anagrammatic names are not to be recommended. Dr. Leach managed them well: *Tellima*, quoted by Dr. Asa Gray, from *Mitella*, is very good; but what shall we say of *Gifloga* and *Ifloga*, from *Filago*, or *Tipnus* and *Nitpus*, from *Ptinus*?

But, before all things, I would protest against Dr. Asa Gray's proposition that the first describer of the species should not be cited when that species has been afterwards transferred to some other than the original genus. If it be perfectly understood that, in citing the authority, we only do so for the species, how can there be any difficulty? In Botany it is expressly understood that this is the case when the parenthesis is used. In Entomology the parenthesis indicates that the authority did not describe the species, or, in other words, that the name has not been published. I think it would be preferable simply to put *n.s.* or *ined.* after unpublished names whenever it is necessary to quote them. But the great objection to the proposition would be that the desire to put their own names as the authority after the species would lead to the splitting up of some genera and the union of others—anything, in fact, that would allow an old species to be detached from its original genus. When Professor Babington adopted Partaloro's unnecessary genus *Serrafalcus*, one of his critics did not hesitate to insinuate that this was done for the sake of having *Bab.* after the names of five or six British plants which had to be referred to it; but, although every one will acquit the Professor of being influenced by such a motive, it cannot be denied that there are those who would probably not object to seize every opportunity, or, at all events, would be very strongly biased in favour of any alteration that would allow them to place their own names after these new combinations of genera and species; and the confusion, in a short time, would be incalculable. And there is another objection. Suppose that some ichthyologist were to discover that the genus *Thynnus* of Cuvier was posterior to the *Thynnus* of Latreille, and he were simply to con-

fine himself to changing the Cuvierian name—how would the species stand for their authorities? Clearly not to the "discoverer," for he has not mentioned them; and, according to Dr. Asa Gray's proposition, the names of the original describers would be no longer applicable. In Entomology, where a single family will sometimes count nearly or even more than a thousand genera, and where it often happens that the name, in consequence of its being previously applied, has to be changed, such a rule would be an unspeakable evil. Imagine us, in consequence of the change of the generic name from any cause, having to put aside the original describers of some fifty, seventy, or perhaps a hundred or two hundred species, and the consequent loss of all clue to their descriptions, and, instead, of their being followed throughout by the name of one who has only invented another generic word, and who it is not necessary shall know anything more than that he has got an unquestioned opportunity of doing so. Such a rule would be as unjust as it is unnecessary.

There is another point about which I should like to say a few words, or rather to put a few questions. I refer to the composition and character of generic and specific names. Are such barbarisms as *Jacaré*, *Battyghur*, *Lablab*, and many others, to be tolerated? If we are to have *Cacatua* or *Kangurus* (from cockatoo and kangaroo), would there be any objection to *Tomtit-tus* or *Kittiwake-us*; or would there be any objection to anything? *Punch* will be taking up this pseudo-scientific nomenclature one of these days, and pretty ridiculous he will make it appear. Then, again, is there to be any limit to the number of syllables a generic name may consist of? What is to be said of *Diatmocephala* or *Heteroclytomorpha*? Are specific names composed of two distinct words to be allowed?—*Regis Petri*, for example. If the principle be admitted, are we prepared for *Imperatrix Eugenia* or *Principis Hohenzollern-Sigmaringenensis*? To put an extreme case, what would be thought of *Heteroclytomorpha Principis Hohenzollern-Sigmaringenensis*? The license that has been assumed makes such cases possible, and they should be provided for in the new code. We have already *Amphionycha know-nothing* and *Cicindela cherubim* (!). Is eccentricity or ignorance to have no limit? We are constantly having the barbarous names of savages put forward as the systematic appellations to be adopted by the science of the age and of every country. The present generation has not improved on the past in the matter of nomenclature; and, in the length and cacophony of the words, the evil seems to be on the increase. Let it be understood that the law of priority has its duties as well as its rights, and let us hope that the Committee of the British Association will very sharply define what some, at least, of those duties are.

FRANK P. PASCOE.

## INSURANCE COMPANIES AND THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

June 21, 1864.

THE rumour to which allusion is made in connexion with the Astronomical *Soirée* at page 784 of your journal of the 18th instant is not unfounded.

On Friday, the 10th, during the preparation of Willis's Rooms for the reception on the following day, the proprietors informed me that they could not permit electrical experiments, as their insurance office had given them notice that the Company would not hold themselves liable for damage by fire during the continuance of electrical apparatus in the building.

Not wishing to forego the exhibition of experiments for which extensive preparations had been made, I called on Saturday, the 11th, on the secretary of the office, who received me very courteously, and listened patiently to my explanation, but declined to remove the veto which had been issued or to grant a special insurance, for which I would have paid. Under these circumstances I addressed myself to the Sun Insurance Office, where I had already insured the articles entrusted to me for exhibition, and effected an insurance for £20,000 on the buildings and contents. Although the expense was not considerable, I was put to much personal inconvenience at a time I could ill be spared from the superintendence of the arrangements.

WARREN DE LA RUE.

## EXPLOSION OF GUN-COTTON.

28, Grosvenor Street, Eaton Square,  
June 17.

I NOTICED in the *Times* of the 8th inst. a letter of Dr. T. L. Phipson, analytical chemist, to the effect that Dr. Phipson has already twice stated

that the explosion of gun-cotton which killed Mr. Léon Dornbach, a photographic chemist, a year or so ago, was *evidently* caused by an electric spark, while packing this substance into a cask, generated by friction. If Dr. Phipson will take the trouble and try whether or not an electric spark—even under the highest tension from a Leyden jar—ignites gun-cotton, he may observe that the spark *always* flashes through the gun-cotton, however densely packed it be, *without igniting it*.

From my long experience with this substance I may say that no one need be alarmed of *properly* produced gun-cotton. I may also inform Dr. Phipson that there was no terrible explosion at Stowmarket: no one has suffered the least violence from the accidental ignition of the material: unfortunately, it set fire to the girls' dresses. I may further add that gun-cotton for the use of photographers is a quite different substance from that for military and engineering purposes.

A voltaic battery will, as a matter of course, set fire to gun-cotton, or to any combustible substance, whether explosive or not.

I enclose sample of gun-cotton through which one hundred sparks of a very powerful condenser have been discharged in ten minutes by myself, each spark highly illuminating every fibre of the substance.

RÉVY.

## PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES.

PARIS.

Académie des Sciences, June 6.—THE following papers and communications were read:—Payen—"Note on the Wood of the Ancient Water-wheel discovered at San Domingos in Portugal." This wheel, which was described at a previous meeting, belongs probably to the fifth century; and the high state of preservation of the wood induced M. Payen to make an analysis of it. He found that it was impregnated with the sulphates of copper and iron, which were dissolved in the waters of the mine in which the wheel was found. He also called attention to another instance of the preservation of wood by saline solutions in the mines of Hallein in Austria, where the timbering—supposed to have been placed there before the Christian era—remains intact at the present day.—Kuhlmann—"On the Formation of Crystals: Calcareous Spar, Rock Salt, Glaciers, &c., &c."—Guyon—"On the Nature of Yellow Fever."—Billet—"On Artificial Rainbows." In this elaborate memoir the author describes the rainbows, to the number of seventeen, produced by a jet of water of one to two millimètres in diameter, viewed in the sunlight. The intensity of the consecutive rainbows, the variation of the refractive index of water with the temperature, and several other facts, are contained in the memoir.—Oppenheim—"On the Action of Bromine and Iodine on Allylene." By passing the vapour of bromine into a flask containing allylene he obtained in the shade a dark liquid, consisting of a mixture of bibromide and tetrabromide, which were separated by distillation. Iodine also combines with allylene, but with more difficulty than bromine, and forms a biniodide.—Grandea—"On the Use of Dialysis in Researches on the Alkaloids: New Character of Digitaline." After giving the details of his experiments with the dialyser, he states that a most delicate and conclusive reaction, by which this poison may be detected, is furnished by sulphuric acid and the vapour of bromine. He first separates all organic matters by the dialyser, evaporates the solution to dryness, and moistens the residue with the former substance, and then exposes it to bromine vapour. It is instantly coloured violet, the depth of tint varying with the quantity of digitaline present. Exceedingly feeble traces may be detected in this manner. Morphine, narcotine, strychnine, &c., do not furnish any reaction with this test.—Serret—"On the Perturbations of Pallas due to the Influence of Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune." This memoir is said by the author to contain an application of the principles set forth in his paper read on the 18th of May of last year.—Bouchard-Chautreaux—"On some Cut Flints found on the Seashore at Boulogne-sur-Mer." They consisted principally of arrow-heads and flint knives, all of small size, but very numerous, the author having collected upwards of 3000. Most of them had evidently been cut from fragments which had been exposed for some time to the air and to the rolling action of the waves.—Stahl—"A New Method of Solidifying Friable Substances." The author proposes to use a mixture composed of 1 part of resin and 3 parts of spermaceti, to be applied hot, by means of a hair

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pencil, to the surface of fragile fossils, to prevent them from crumbling away and to permit of plaster casts being taken. When the fossil is friable, but compact, the resin is omitted. To remove a fragile fossil from its bed when it is too moist to permit of doing so without breaking, he coats it with spermaceti, and then passes over it the flame of a cotton wick dipped in spirits of wine. The spermaceti is absorbed, and, in a short time, the fossil may be removed entire without difficulty.—Dufour—"On the Ebullition of Water, and on Boiler Explosions" (continuation).—In order to show more clearly the effect of the gaseous envelope surrounding metallic bodies, he made use of a vessel through which were passed two platinum wires connected with the poles of a battery. A slight disengagement of gas was of course the consequence, and ebullition took place at the usual temperature. When, however, the current was broken, and the boiling continued until all the gas had been driven off from the wires, the temperature rose and the ebullition became irregular. The boiler explosion which occurred at Aberdare in April last, and which was attributed by Fairbairn to the corrosion and consequent weakening of the plates by the use of feed-water containing sulphuric acid, was, according to M. Dufour, owing to the irregular and explosive ebullition which is always caused by the presence of that acid. The paper also contains some other speculations in this direction. Cailletet—"On the Permeability of Iron to Hydrogen at High Temperatures." In a previous paper the author showed that, if a flattened iron tube with closed ends be heated in an atmosphere of hydrogen, the gas, passing through the sides, restores the tube to its original form. The present paper contains an account of some improvements in the method of experimenting and the limits of temperature within which the phenomenon takes place. He found that, in the cold, and at a temperature of 210°, hydrogen does not pass through a sheet of iron of  $\frac{3}{8}$  millimètres in thickness.—Reboul—"On some Non-Saturated Bodies belonging to the groups of Mixed Ethers."

VIENNA.

Kaiserliche Akademie der Wissenschaften, April 20. *Philosophico-historical Section*.—DR. LORENZ read a paper "On the Two Municipal Charters of Vienna granted by Rudolph I."—In all probability these charters, which date as far back as 1278, are merely the draft of a proposed law to enlarge the powers of the Senate, which was prepared for the purpose of being submitted to Duke Albert. That Rudolph granted two charters to the town admits, however, of no doubt, the one being principally a confirmation of Leopold's municipal laws of the year 1221, and the other a confirmation and extension of Frederick's charter of freedom of 1237.

April 27.—Several communications relative to the publication of the Austrian "Weisthümer" were laid before the Academy. A posthumous work of Herr Hiller—"The Chronology of History and Numismatics"—was presented. Professor Siegel read a paper which he had received from Professor Maassen of Graz, "Excerpts from Roman Law." A manuscript from Bobbio, preserved in the Ambrosian Library at Milan, contains a small collection of Roman law compiled for Church use like the *lex romana canonice compta*, of which, however, it is independent. The Justinian codex has been used, and the passages have been literally translated. With the exception of the arrangement of the paragraphs and chapters, there are no signs of the individuality of the compiler. It could not have been drawn up later than the ninth century.

BRUSSELS.

Académie des Sciences, June 4.—THE Minister of the Interior submitted to the Academy the analysis of the water of an artesian well recently excavated at Ostend. The following communications were then read:—Valérius—"On a new Electric Chronoscope, with Rotary Cylinder, founded on the Use of the Diapason."—Lambert—"On Curves of the Second Degree."—Candèze—"On some new Elaterides."—Quetelet—"On the Periodicity of the Shooting-Stars of November." The author read an extract from a letter which he had received from Mr. Newton of Newhaven, U.S., in which he estimates the cycle of the revolution of the shooting-stars of November to be 33½ years, quoting at the same time several observations, some of which extended as far back as the year 902. The difference between the calculated and the observed results he attempts to account for by the perturbations produced by the planets and the moon. These influences are, as is well known,

very considerable for comets; and it is a fair supposition, adds M. Quetelet, that, in the case of small bodies like shooting-stars, they would be still greater. Mr. Newton's letter also contained a statement to the effect that the late Mr. Herrick had left behind him a valuable record of the appearances of the aurora borealis for the last seventeen years. The Academy of Arts and Sciences of Connecticut has undertaken to print this unique series of observations.—Poelman—"On a Specimen of *Delphinus Eschrichtii* (Schlegel) stranded at Flushing."—Van Beneden—"On a Skeleton of a *Plesiosaurus* found at Dampicourt." A detailed account of this fossil was promised at a future meeting.—Spring—"On the Connexion between the Sense of Temperature and the Senses of Touch and Pain." In this paper the author, after noticing the complex nature of the sense of touch, as compared with the other senses, endeavours to arrive at the distinction between the sensation of heat and cold and that of pain. He notices the fact that persons undergoing a surgical operation feel the chill of the instrument apart from the pain produced by its action.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Royal Geographical Society, June 13. Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair.—THE first paper read was on the "Travels of Portuguese in Inner Africa, between Mozambique and Benguela," by W. D. Cooley.—The object of the paper was to propound the views of the author (founded on the explorations of various Portuguese travellers), in opposition to the observations and conclusions of Dr. Livingstone, on the position of the rivers and lakes of inner Southern Africa. Although the Portuguese made but few astronomical observations, yet their itineraries were so full, and their various accounts so consistent, that the geographical information imparted was quite reliable, and ought not, in the opinion of the author, to be set aside, as had been done in the construction of modern maps. The paper displayed much learning, and was illustrated by a large map exhibiting the views of the author. Some of the more striking points of difference between this map and the recent ones of Livingstone were the separation of the Zambezi into two distinct rivers, the north-west direction of Lake Nyassa (which is made continuous with Tanganyika), and the severance of the river Shiré from the same lake.

The next paper was a communication from Dr. Livingstone, narrating the incidents of his last journey into the interior. The despatch containing instructions for the withdrawal of his expedition did not reach him until the 2nd of July, 1863, when the waters of the Zambezi had fallen too low for the *Pioneer* to be taken down to the sea. To improve the time, therefore, until the flood of December, Dr. Livingstone set forth, accompanied by the steward of the vessel, to finish the exploration of Lake Nyassa, and more particularly to decide whether a large river entered its northern extremity. The wreck of his boat in the rapids of the Shiré forced him to abandon the attempt to sail round the lake; he therefore started to go to the northern end by land, pursuing for many days a north-westerly course, so as to avoid a colony of Zulius, who were at war with the negroes on the western shores of Nyassa. In this direction he came upon a range of mountains, 6000 feet high, running north and south, and forming the edge of the table-land on which the Maravi dwell. Beyond this he turned to the north-east, and struck the shores of the lake at Kota-kota Bay, in latitude 12° 55' south. He here found two Arab traders engaged in building a dhow, to replace one which had been wrecked in crossing the lake. This is the point at which nearly all the traders in slaves and ivory cross on the highway between the eastern seaports and the Cazembe country of the interior. The Arabs had 1500 persons in the village, and were busily employed transporting slaves to the coast. One fathom of calico (value 1s.) is the price paid for a boy, and two for a good-looking girl. But, nevertheless, it is the joint ivory and slave trade that alone makes slave-trading a paying business; for the cost of feeding the negroes would be too great an expense were it not for the value of their services in carrying the ivory: a trader with twenty slaves must daily pay the price of one slave for their sustenance. All the difficulties which Dr. Livingstone had experienced in travelling in the interior were due to the obstacles thrown in his way by the Portuguese. He judged truly that, in buying up the ivory, he was undermining the slave-trade. He only hoped that this same course would be pursued by other travellers who might succeed him, as

this did more to destroy the slave-trade than the English cruisers on the coast. Leaving Kota-kota Bay, Dr. Livingstone again turned due west, and in three days reached the ascent of the plateau. The long slope, adorned with hill and dale and running streams, fringed with evergreen-trees, was most beautiful. The heights had a delicious, but peculiarly pleasing air, which was very exhilarating. At this point, distant eighty or ninety miles from Nyassa, the watershed was crossed, and two rivers met with, both named Loangwa; one was found flowing eastward, into the lake, the other westward, towards the Zambezi. Another river was here seen, called the Moitawa, which flows into a small lake called Bemba; from this river issues, according to native and Arab report, the river Luapula, which, flowing west, forms the Lake Mofue, and then, passing the town of Cazembe, turns to the north, and is lost in Tanganyika. Dr. Livingstone had a strong desire to follow the stream; but, the time for the rising of the Zambezi and for floating the *Pioneer* out to sea having arrived, he was obliged to return. With regard to the existence of a large river flowing into the northern end of Nyassa from Tanganyika, Dr. Livingstone was assured by all the natives of whom he inquired that there was no such stream, but that two small rivers alone enter the lake from the north. The numerous streams met with on this journey flowing from the west into Nyassa seemed to warrant the conclusion that no flow of water from Tanganyika was necessary to account for the great depth of the lake and the perennial flow of the Shiré. In this journey Dr. Livingstone and his companion walked 660 miles in fifty-five travelling-days. On arriving at the Zambezi he found the river had not yet risen, the rains being much later than usual, and was mortified in the reflection that, had he dared to speculate on a late rise, he would have had ample time to examine the water-system of Lake Bemba.

The President having remarked on the discrepancies between Mr. Cooley's map of the Great Lake and that drawn up from the observations of Dr. Livingstone,

Captain Speke said he was inclined to believe that at one period Lake Nyassa and Lake Tanganyika formed one inland sea, and that there was still some connexion between them, probably a river flowing through a marshy valley; for, when he was at Kazé, he heard from the Arabs that there was no mountain range dividing the two lakes, and they also talked of a river, from which he inferred that Tanganyika was drained into Nyassa. Unless Nyassa received its waters from the north, he was at a loss to understand whence it could obtain its vast depth and volume, as well as the supply which was constantly drawn off from it by the Shiré; for in Africa the only part where the rainy season was continuous was a narrow belt on each side of the equator, the tropical region both to the south and to the north being subject to long annual drought, during which the rivers and lakes were very greatly lessened in depth.

Mr. Galton differed from Captain Speke with respect to the equatorial zone alone having a sufficient rainfall to account for the first-class African rivers. He mentioned the Senegal, the Gambia, the Niger, the Zambezi, as cases in point; and therefore saw no difficulty in the maintenance of the Tanganyika and the Nyassa by means of their local sources of supply.

Dr. Kirk, being called upon by the President, as the only person in the room who had actually sailed on Lake Nyassa, to state the result of his observations, said that, as second in command of Dr. Livingstone's party in 1861, he travelled for 200 miles in a boat along the course of the Nyassa from south to north, and that the number and volume of the rivers they had seen entering the lake were, in his and Dr. Livingstone's opinion, amply sufficient to account for the flow of the Shiré. The water was as blue as the tropical ocean, and in some places 115 fathoms deep. They did not reach the northern end of the lake; but they could see, at the farthest point they attained, ranges of mountains on both shores, and the lake narrowing in breadth from 50 to 15 miles. The natives, moreover, told them that five days' farther journey would enable them to double the end of the lake and reach a point on the eastern shore opposite to where they then were on the western. They only heard of two small rivers coming in from the north, and these had very little to do with the supply. The rainfall in the region of Nyassa was very much larger than generally supposed. In the map shown by Mr. Cooley the form and direction of the lake were quite wrong, and the river Shiré (in conformity with the Portuguese account) was represented

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erroneously as not connected with it; whereas Dr. Livingstone and himself had traced the Shiré from its mouth to its source in the lake. Dr. Kirk pointed out other mistakes in Mr. Cooley's map, particularly the one relating to the river Zambezi, which in this map was given as two separate streams, the upper course of the river being severed, below the Victoria Falls, from the lower course; but Dr. Livingstone, himself (Dr. Kirk), and Mr. Thomas Baines had traced the entire connexion of the Upper and Lower Zambezi, with the exception of a small distance of about ten miles.

After a few remarks from Mr. Macqueen and Dr. Beke (who adduced facts to show the error of Mr. Cooley in uniting the two lakes), the President concluded by remarking that this knotty question would never be completely solved until the gentlemen who had addressed the meeting went and solved the problem by doing what Dr. Livingstone and Dr. Kirk had done. When gentlemen risked their lives in wild countries, and really made astronomical observations and fixed latitudes and longitudes, of course all critical geography must give way before that.

Extracts from letters from M. du Chaillu, Dr. Baikie, and Herr von Heuglin were read, and the meeting then adjourned.

**Philological Society, June 3.**—The Secretary read two papers by the Rev. W. Barnes—one on "Old English Words wholly or almost gone out of Use," and another on "Language and the Stone Age of our Race."—The writer observed of the former subject that it may be thought by some that, not only has the English language been enriched by words from other tongues—such as Latin, Greek, or French—but that it is fuller by so many words as have been so taken into it; whereas many of the foreign words, and especially those from Latin and Greek, have only taken the places of English words that formerly did their offices. He gave a list of more than two hundred quotations from old writers of sundry ages, as they show the use of old English words, for which we now take equivalents from Latin and other tongues; and of these words a few are, for adult, *fullwaxen*; ancestors, *foreelders*; bisect, *to-twin*; caution, *forewit*; conquer, *overquell*; discrimination, *skillwiseness*; epidemic disease, *manqualm*; iniquity, *wrongwiseness*—the true opposite of righteousness, which was *rightwiseness*; misconduct, *missfare*; naval expedition, *shipferd*; penal servitude, *thralwork*; proclaim, *forthtell*; seclude, *occlude*, *forshut*; solstice, *sunstead*.

In the paper "On Language and the Stone Age of our Race" he said: "Though philologists may not as yet be ready to receive, in full, a theory of primary roots of which some of our tongues would seem to afford an insight, yet a few of them might take some two or three of our words, as they are found among others of fellow-forms, as having come down from the stone age of our race. *Flint* may be one of those words. There is, in Teutonic speech, a set of *fl*-headed words, or words beginning with *fl*, which *fl* seem to betoken flying, as air, or in air; or flowing, as water, or in water; or flaring, as flame. There are, in the English provincial and book-speech, more than a hundred of *fl*-headed stems, and there are more that may be drawn from the same root in Latin, Greek, and Welsh, though there is no need, for the sake of the word *flint*, to take more than a few of the *n*-stems and *k*-stems:—*Fling*, to make fly; *flanker* (West), a flying fire-spark; *flinders* (West), off-flying bits, as of a body smashed; *flounce*, to fly down, as into water; *flaunter*, *n.*, to be in flying haste; *flaunt* (1), "to make a fluttering show in apparel, (2) to be hung with something loose, and flying" (Johnson); *flaun* (old), *flân* (Frisian), what flies, an arrow; *flint*, an arrow-stone. Thence we can understand why a gun was called, in Frisian, a *flint*—a thing to make a body (ball) fly. Next for the word "chisel." A pebble or flint was, with our Saxon-English forefathers, a *ceosl*, which has now become *chesel*, *chisel*; as in the *Chisel beach* at Portland, and *Chiselbourne* (Dorset), *Chisleborough* (Somerset), *Chisleton* (Wilts), *Chislehurst* (Kent); and the word *chisel* has most likely come down from a time when the *chisels* of our race were *chisels*, *flints*, or pebbles. Now a Celtic name for a flint is *celt*—a word which may have come from some primary root as *ka*, *ki*, and belonging to the Latin and Celtic words *cos*, a whetstone; *cautes*, rock stones; *calleo*, to be hard; *calx*, *calculus*, pebble or stone; *callus*, a hard knob; *caillon*, French, a pebble—Welsh, *caled*, hard. In Latin we find *celtis*, a chisel; in Welsh *cyllleil*, a knife; and in Latin, again, *cultellus*, *cutter*, a knife or edge-tool. And it may

be observed that there is a likeness of the Latin *calx*, *calculus*, a pebble or stone, to the Greek *χαλκός*, brass used for edge-tools."

**Ethnological Society, June 7.** Mr. J. Crawford, F.R.S., V.P., in the chair.—The first paper read was on "Civilization and Cerebral Development: Some Observations on the Influence of Civilization upon the Development of the Brain in the Different Races of Man." By Mr. Robert Dunn, F.R.S., Vice-President.—Discarding *monogenesis* or *polygenesis* as foreign to his subject, the author asserted that from time immemorial there had always existed, besides that of the rudest and savage hordes of hunters and fishers, two forms or phases of civilization—the nomadic, or pastoral, and the agricultural; the former essentially stationary in its character, but the latter eminently and strikingly progressive. The author observed that, among the purely nomadic races, where civilization is stationary, there exists a *uniform sameness* and a characteristic fixity in the shape of the head—strikingly in contrast with what is seen to prevail among the agricultural races and cultivated Europeans. He next dwelt on the importance of viewing in contrast the typical crania of the negroes or Australian savages, the Mongolian nomads, and the cultivated Europeans, maintaining that, as the skull is the outward measure and index of the brain's development within, we are able fairly to estimate the relative size and comparative development of its three great divisions—its anterior, middle, and posterior lobes. He then adverted to the prognathous type as *one of degradation*, and adduced in contrast, as *a type of elevation*, the *orthognathic*, as seen among the European nations. From the skulls the author proceeded to the comparison of the brains themselves. But here, he remarked, to be able to anticipate and duly to appreciate the structural differences which we meet with in the brains of the typical races involves and implies a more exact and complete knowledge of the functions of these different cerebral parts and of the nervous apparatus of the perceptive and intellectual consciousness than that to which he was free to confess had been yet attained. Still, we were not without some definite knowledge of the functions of the cerebral lobes as psychical instruments; and he stated what were the views and convictions of his own mind, not hastily taken up, but founded on the facts of pathology and of developmental anatomy, comparative and human—viz., that the anterior lobes are the seat of the intellectual, the middle of the personal or individual, and the posterior of the social and affectional activities or attributes of the human mind. He recognised throughout the hemispheres of the brain, and in the tripartite division into anterior, middle, and posterior lobes, three stages or planes of cerebral development:—(1) The inferior or lowest, the *basilar* or *superciliary*; (2) the middle or *median-frontal*; and (3) the highest, the *coronal* or *superior-frontal*—the sole and exclusive prerogative of man. He argued that, on the comparative evolution and size of the different cerebral lobes in these stages or planes of development, the individual character is mainly dependent, and that, while the *middle* or *personal* are the dominating lobes of the brain as to animal, moral, and religious activities of the man, it is the *anterior* which indicate the character of his intellectual bearing and attributes, and the *posterior* that of his social tendencies, propensities, and affections. The intellectual activities of the mind, fulness of development, and complexity of structure are sure indications of elevation of type, and that the converse, as Gratiolet, from extended observations, has amply shown, are equally true marks of degradation of function. Mr. Dunn gave expression to his regret that, among aboriginal and typical races, so little had hitherto been done in the examination and comparison of their cerebral organizations. Ethnic-psychology is still a desideratum. He concluded by adverting to the historical bearings of his subject and to the evidence which is presented by history of the conversion in time of a type of humanity into another from the influence of outward circumstances, social states, and intellectual culture.

A paper "On the Supply of Tin for the Bronze Weapons of Antiquity," by Mr. Crawford, was then read.—There are but three principal sources from which the nations of ancient Europe could have derived tin—namely, Britain, the Malayan countries, and Northern China. Spain, in early times, may have furnished a small supply; but the ore is not abundant in that country. In rude times the commercial intercourse of nations is, from necessity, conducted by slow and expensive stages—sometimes by land and sometimes by sea. It was by this tedious and costly course that the

silk of China, the pepper of Malabar, the cinnamon of Ceylon, and, eventually, the cloves and nutmegs of the remote Spice Islands, reached the nations of the West, Asiatic and European. In some of the ancient tombs of Egypt there have of late been found small porcelain phials with the hieroglyphics of China clearly and legibly inscribed upon them—a fact attesting the great antiquity of the commercial intercourse between the Eastern and Western world. The author presumes that the tin necessary for the formation of bronze would be supplied in the same manner as silk and spices; but, in this case, it would come from two quarters, from the West as well as from the East. The merchants dealing in it would convey their commodity as far as it fetched a profit, until Western and Eastern tin met at a central point where the two articles would be nearly of the same price. The author ventures to name Egypt as likely to be that point. All the nations west of it would be supplied with British, and all those east of it with Malayan, or Chinese tin. With Sir Cornwall Lewis, the author utterly disbelieves in voyages of the Phœnicians to the Scilly Islands. No doubt voyages of even greater length are now performed, and for many ages have been performed, even before the invention of the compass, and this in vessels not superior to those of the Greeks and Phœnicians, by Oriental mariners; but, then, it is done by help of the monsoons—that is, with a fair wind outward and in the homeward voyage, and in seas which, avoiding the equinoxes, are never vexed by storms. With respect to the manner in which the Malayan tin was distributed in early times, the question is necessarily full of obscurity. When the Portuguese first visited Malacca, then close to the principal tin mines (for the rich ores of Banca were not discovered until two centuries later), they there found the native shipping of the Coromandel coast of India and the junks of China and even of Japan, the conductors of the trade between these countries and the Malayan Archipelago. It was probably by the same source that India and Southern China, with the countries adjacent to them, were from time immemorial supplied with the tin that enabled them to manufacture their bronzes and bell-metal. There is one ancient document which seems to corroborate this view of the manner in which India was supplied with tin. This is the "Periplus" of the Erythraean Sea—that is, an account of the trade and trading ports of the ocean which lies between the Red Sea and the western coast of India. The "Periplus" has neither an author's name nor a date, but, from internal evidence, is believed to have been the work of a Greek merchant of Egypt of the time of the Roman occupation of that country. The author tells us that, on the western coast of India, the extreme eastern limit of the trade which he describes, there were two principal emporia—namely, Baragaza or Barygaza to the north, and Barake or Barace to the south; and he enumerates the articles of trade dealt in at both places, which are nearly the same. The imports of the "Periplus" would, of course, include the commodities brought from all countries, as well as those brought from the Arabian Gulf; and the course by which they are brought to the Indian emporia can only be discovered by the character and nature of the articles. When we find, for example, Italian and Sardinian wine, with precious coral, named among the imports, we may be certain that they were brought from about the countries on the Mediterranean; and, when we find coarse glass enumerated as an import, we may suspect that it came from Egypt, since we know of no other country in which the manufacture of that article was at the time understood. When we find black pepper among the exports, and in such quantity as to demand larger vessels than usual, we may be sure that this is a local production, and not an imported article; since one of the ports, the most southern, is described as situated in the proper country of Malabar, the parent locality of the black vine. The same may be said of ivory, since elephants still exist in the forests of Malabar, and, in the time of the "Periplus," were probably far more numerous. But to come to the main point—the distribution of tin in so far as India is concerned. The article is described at both of the Indian emporia as an import; but this would equally apply to it, whether it came from the west, and was British, or from the East, and was Malayan or Chinese. No hint of its origin is given; but it is named along with lead, brass, or bronze, cinnamon, or sulphure of mercury, and orpiment, or sulphure of arsenic. None of these articles are products of India, any more than is tin itself; but they are all products of China, and exported down to the present time. The "Periplus," the author

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observes, takes no notice of iron or steel; from which we may conclude that both India and Egypt were well supplied with these metals, and had no need of each other's assistance. Neither is there any mention of copper; so that we are at a loss to know how India was supplied with this metal, unless from its own mines.

British Meteorological Society, June 15. Dr. Tripe, Vice-President, in the chair. Messrs. W. Andrews, Charles Barham, W. H. Barnes, F. W. Beaumont, Edward Ladd Betts, Francis Wright Costar, James Church, the Hon. Edward P. Bouverie, M.P., Sergeant-Major Robert Gould, John P. Gassiot, F.R.S., William Joseph Kingsbury, John Bennet Lawes, John G. Livesey, William Alexander Mackinnon, M.P., F.R.S., William Carpenter Nash, Charles Neate, John Noble, Thomas Pollock, Rev. Thomas Arthur Preston, Dr. W. T. Radford, S. Smiles, John P. Stephens, and William Forbes were elected Fellows. —The papers read were: "Explanation of Meteorological Tables illustrating the Climate of Southern Interior Africa." By John Kirk, Esq., M.D., of Dr. Livingstone's Zambesi expedition. —The instruments with which the observations were made were excellent, and had been carefully rated, and great confidence may be placed in the tables. The barometric observations were made with great care. A diagram is given of the gradient of the bed of the Zambesi, from barometer observations, and of the Nyassa lake and river Shiré, from two double series of barometric and boiling-point observations.

"Ozone Observations," by M. Julin. —Mr. Balfour Stewart exhibited to the Society specimens of photo-lithographic impressions of the traces simultaneously produced by the magnetograph at Kew and Lisbon, and made a few remarks on some of the peculiarities which these present. When the publication of these is complete, a set will be presented to the Society.

At the Annual Meeting the Council reported that the number of members was 300, of whom 10 were honorary, 50 life, and 240 annual; that no arrears of subscriptions were due; that, after liabilities were discharged, there was a fair balance in the hands of the treasurer; that the Society held Government Stock to the amount of £800, and possessed a large and increasing library. Under these circumstances they considered that the time had arrived for taking steps for procuring a Royal Charter of Incorporation, which would promote the interests and increase the usefulness of the Society. The meeting adopted the recommendation of the Council, and desired them to do what was necessary for obtaining a charter. A subscription was opened in the room for meeting the necessary expense without encroaching on the funds of the Society.

The new Council elected are: —President—Dr. Thomson, F.R.S.; Vice-Presidents—A. Brady, S. W. Silver, Dr. Tripe, S. C. Whitbread, F.R.S.; Treasurer—H. Perigal; Secretaries—J. Glaisher, F.R.S., C. V. Walker, F.R.S.; Foreign Secretary—Lieut.-Col. Strange; Librarian—H. S. Eaton, M.A.; Council—N. Beardmore, C. Brooke, F.R.S., Latimer Clark, W. P. Dymond, F. Galton, F.R.S., J. P. Harrison, Dr. Lee, F.R.S., R. W. Mynne, F.R.S., D. Slate, T. Sopwith, F.R.S., B. Stewart, F.R.S., Dr. Tripe.

The usual votes of thanks were passed, and the Council were congratulated upon the very gratifying report that they had been able to make; and special thanks were voted to Mr. C. V. Walker, one of the secretaries, for his labours in editing the Proceedings of the Society.

Syro-Egyptian Society, June 14. Dr. J. Lee in the chair. —THOMAS LEWIN, Esq., F.S.A., made a communication "On the Site of the Temple at Jerusalem." —Mr. Lewin's arguments were mainly based on Josephus's account of the form and size of the Temple, which, he said, necessitated its positioning at the S.W. corner of the Temple enclosure. This view of the subject was further supported by the relative position of Herod Agrippa's palace; of Herod's cloisters and the connecting bridge or causeway over the Tyropeon; by the position of the gates; and by a variety of other details which the author enumerated at length.

## DUBLIN.

Royal Geological Society of Ireland, June 8. Rev. Professor Haughton, F.R.S., in the chair. Messrs. G. B. Bradshaw (Dalymount, Phibsborough), C. R. C. Tichborne, and C. W. Bateman were elected Fellows. —A PAPER by Mr. Harte was read "On the Physical Features of the County of Donegal." —The writer alluded to the attention

which the geology of Donegal had received from this Society, the British Association, &c., and proceeded to describe the result of some investigations of his into several interesting points connected with the physical features of the county, more particularly in connexion with its history during the glacial period, to which much of the present striking scenery was due. The county was so intersected by estuaries that no part of it was twelve miles from the reach of tide. The principal mountain-range ran from south to north, and there met the mountains which take a north-easterly direction to the mouth of Lough Foyle. He described the geology of these mountain-ranges, and the central granite, which was extremely fissile, and situated at the head of the Bay of Donegal, in which Bluestack Mountain rises to a height of 2219 feet on the north side, and the road from Sligo to Derry passes through the "Gap of Barnesmore," at the south side of it. The central granite threw out several lines radiating from it; one running to the west, ending in the Cliff of Slieve League, and another running south and west—both enclosing the basin of the Bay of Donegal, in which the Palæozoic rocks of the yellow sandstone system lay between the primary rocks and the sea. The main ridge then ran due north, and threw out spurs. The yellow sandstone and arenaceous limestone hills within the basin were peculiar; they were ovate shaped, their shorter slopes being next the mountains, and on their surface they bore the particular drift of the primary rocks of the mountains towards which their major axes pointed, and which converged towards the centre of the bay, in the direction the ice of the glacial period had to take when breaking up inside the basin. Outside the ice broke away east and west, forming the valleys of the Glenties, Gweebarra, Gweedore, Lennon, Swilly, Finn, and Mourne rivers, &c. The main valley of the Bay of Donegal was divided into two by the high ridge of yellow sandstone upon which Mountcharles stood, and which separated the Eany and Eske rivers. It rises near the Cob, in a steep bluff over Lough Eske, 1275 feet high, on which were resting granite erratics, and in the crevices of the conglomerate of which the *Hymenophyllum tunbridgense* was growing. In the valley of the Gap of Barnesmore were to be found the traces of an ancient glacier, many of which must have filled all the other valleys at the same period. Having traced the visible action of the ice within the Bay of Donegal, he extended his remarks to the evidence afforded by the surveys of the Atlantic that that action which had scooped out the valleys had ceased when the land had attained its present elevation of some 1300 feet, at least, above the previous level of the sea, for the Atlantic bottom was perfectly smooth for a distance of at least sixty miles off the coast, and must have been previously submerged to that depth at least. With reference to the subject of alleged oscillations of level of coast, he had investigated numbers of cases of submerged forests. One case in particular, that of a bog at Dourass, near Ardara, which, after having been long buried below a sea-beach, lately came to light again, was illustrated by a section. It, as all other cases he saw, yielded, upon a close investigation, to the idea that these forests were originally lagoons, the marginal ones, perhaps, of a series which may have covered this now submerged plateau outside the coastline, but which, probably, at the time of the growth of these forests was above water, as a very trifling deviation would have brought it all above the sea-level. None of these forests close to the water-line, as far as he could discern, had ever been submerged, and their remains lay at all levels from the sea-margin up to the 500 feet contour, and even straggling, but smaller trees were found up to 1200 feet contour. Without denying the probability of a secular depression of the coast, such would only be auxiliary to its erosion, the marks of which were evident and extensive. There might, possibly, be a depression going on now; but, so far as the writer saw, there was no evidence whatever of oscillation of levels within the recent period. While avoiding theorizing upon the vexata questio of the temperature of the glacial period, he called attention to the great depth which the highest of these mountains is now below the snow-line for this latitude—some 3000 feet—and which, with the other facts observed, he believed inconsistent with the extreme views of some writers as to there not having been any much greater elevation of the land during the glacial period, or of others who deny there having been any great difference in temperature, but attribute all to alteration of levels, while he found those facts to harmonize well with the middle view of a combination of

higher level and lower snow-line at the earlier portion of the glacial period.

The paper was illustrated with a geological map of the county Donegal, and another showing the mountain-ranges and rivers of the county, accompanied by diagrams on a large scale, showing sections of the central granite and Bay of Donegal, and the Atlantic bottom, and the submerged forest of Dawcross Bay.

The Chairman said that he regretted very much Mr. Harte's absence, for he was sure the gentlemen present would have derived additional benefit from the paper had the author read it himself—on account of his intimate and accurate knowledge of the county Donegal. He did not remember to have ever seen the submerged bog himself; but, nevertheless, he did not entertain the least doubt as to the accuracy of Mr. Harte's observations. He understood that Mr. Harte had delayed sending that paper in order that he might have the opportunity of testing the accuracy of his sections by taking the levels with the spirit-level. He could not refrain from remarking that the county of Donegal is scored with valleys from N.E. to S.W., and even the granite is split by a great valley; and these valleys do not correspond with the valleys of denudation in other parts of Ireland. Some of these valleys terminate abruptly on reaching the sea, where they end in gently sloping masses of gravel and sand. Connected with this, he had made some very curious and interesting observations which at first sight appeared to throw light on the glaciation or scoring of rocks. Presuming that there were but two theories of glaciation received now-a-days by geologists, it was still very curious that this phenomenon of the abrupt termination of valleys could be explained on either hypothesis; for, if the scoring be due to the action of ice, the ice would float as soon as the glacier reached the sea—so that the land would be relieved of the great pressure and the erosive force of the ice destroyed. If, on the other hand, the scoring be due to the motion of mudbanks slipping off the land as it rose out of the sea, it is evident that, as soon as the elevating action ceased, the scoring would cease too, at a height close to that of the present sea-level. Thus we see that the results would be the same, although the action would be somewhat different.

The Rev. Mr. Close said the phenomenon of the rock-scoring or glaciation in the neighbourhood of Dublin was somewhat different from that observed by Mr. Harte. He considered the glaciation described by Mr. Harte was posterior and more local to that observed and described by Mr. Bryce in the Proceedings of the Society, and subsequently observed by himself; but he had seen examples of the former in the lowlands near Dublin.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

### MONDAY, JUNE 27th.

GEOGRAPHICAL, at 8.30. — Burlington House. 1. "On the Island of Kishm and adjacent Ports in the Persian Gulf." Lieut.-Col. Pelly. 2. "A Communication respecting his Journey in the disguise of a Dervish to and beyond Samarcand, through Khiva and Bokhara." M. Vambery. 3. "On the Comoro Islands." Capt. De Horsey, R.N.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 28th.

MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL, at 8.30. — 53, Berners Street, Oxford Street.  
ZOOLOGICAL, at 9.—11, Hanover Square. "On the *Psittacida* of the Eastern Archipelago." Mr. Wallace. "On the Potto of Old Calabar." Professor Huxley. And other papers.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29th.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.—John Street, Adelphi. Anniversary.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 30th.

CHEMICAL, at 8.—Burlington House. "On the Philosophy of Agriculture." Mr. J. T. Way.

### FRIDAY, JULY 1st.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 4.—1, Burlington Gardens.

## ART.

### EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY. LANDSCAPES AND PORTRAITS.

WILL the labour of looking at pictures — of "doing" the Exhibition — ever be lightened by a common-sense arrangement of the pictures? How much better it would be, keeping in view the interests of artists and the convenience of the public, to hang the portraits in a part of the gallery specially set apart for them, and to dispose of the landscapes in a similar way. Under the present system the eye is wearied by the conflicting claims of pictures, not merely differing in subject, but also in kind. While we try to look at a cabinet picture of historical or domestic interest, the features of a contiguous Lord Mayor or Spanish general force themselves upon our attention, and are only excluded from our thoughts by a strong mental effort, which, often repeated,

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results in the headache and weariness of which the generality of visitors complain.

Landscape-painters are, perhaps, more injured by the system in force at present than any other class of artists. Their pictures, being, for the most part, sober in colour, are ill-calculated to bear proximity with subject-pictures or portraits, where the use of the primitive colours, in a less sparing degree, is not prohibited by the nature of the subject. Unattractive also, in the sense of drawing shillings to the Exhibition, they are too frequently placed above or below the privileged line; and many fine landscapes are likely to be overlooked in places where subject-pictures and portraits obtain a very fair share of notice. No collection of pictures is so interesting as a gallery of authentic historical portraits. Any collection of portraits is attractive, as is proved by the attention which the annual display of specimens of the upper ten thousand excites in Trafalgar Square. We believe, also, that, were the landscapes displayed at the Royal Academy placed by themselves in one of the rooms, over the whole of which they are now distributed, not only would they be found infinitely more attractive, but their juxtaposition would give serviceable hints to the painters and useful instruction to the public.

It is unnecessary to speak of the older landscape-painters, whose works in the present Exhibition are fair average specimens from their easels. Stanfield has four small pictures, which, whatever signs they show of declining powers, are, taking them all in all, the best works of their class in the Exhibition. They are all sea-pieces, and there is certainly no sea-painting in the gallery that can stand beside them. Stanfield paints the sea with knowledge founded on genuine feeling; he always impresses us with a sense of its weight and mass, as well as of its transparency and wetness. The "Mew Stone" and "Hollands Diep" are good examples of his power; and both pictures would be remarkable, but that they are felt to be repetitions, not of subject, but of a treatment to which we are accustomed. "Peace" and "War" are more original; and are painted with a tremulous touch which, while it lends a charm to the execution, marks the period of the painter's life during which they were produced. Creswick's three pictures are scarcely less able, but they are more mannered; and we pass them with a feeling that we have seen them before. Lee is a larger contributor than usual: his most important picture, "A View of Gibraltar," interests us from the subject; but, as a work of art, it does not call for particular notice. All his other pictures are vastly inferior to many landscapes hung above and below the line. E. W. Cooke exhibits three pictures—one of which is his diploma work—and a very fine water-colour drawing of a portion of "The Interior of St. Mark's"—altogether the most truthful representation of it we remember to have seen. The best of his pictures this year falls short of the finely-painted "Rock of Gibraltar," which received so much commendation last year; but, as Mr. Cooke is a painter of great versatility, whose mind is well stored with various knowledge, his works show less mannerism than those of any painter of his experience, and they very rarely lack interest. "The Ruins of a Roman Bridge near Tangier" is a very good picture, and bears evidence of scrupulous attention to fact. He has represented for us what probably impressed him most—the size and strength of the Roman arch; and his effect and accessories are conceived and introduced in subordination to this one fact that he wished to bring home to us. So far his work is good art: the picture is defective chiefly in colour, and its effect is thereby considerably lessened; but, in spite of this, it is one of the best landscapes in the Exhibition.

David Roberts is the best scene-painter living, and we never look at his pictures without regretting that his great abilities are lost to the stage. The practice which, in earlier life, he carried on in the painting-room of the theatre, while it has given him wonderful facility and power of hand, has also apparently deadened his eye to the perception of colour; so that, whether he paints Rome, or London, or Edinburgh, he gives us precisely the same atmosphere and the same tone of colour. Hence we place but little reliance upon his representations of particular places, and are content to look at them as dexterous sketches by a first-rate scene-painter. But, while the practice of scene-painting is likely to induce an over-reliance upon conventional forms and hackneyed rules of composition, there can be little doubt that, in many ways, it helps the painter who moderately makes use of it. A few months in the painting-room of a theatre might be of infinite

service to Mr. MacCallum and Mr. Brett, as they would be forced to pay more attention to those important elements of a good picture which at present they are inclined to ignore. Stanfield and David Cox, among other great landscape-painters, have worked at scene-painting, and have been led by its practice to see how much depends on a right selection of view, as well as the value of that good arrangement of lines and objects known as composition. Mr. Brett's picture of "Massa" (569) entirely fails to make any impression upon the spectator till he is in a position to use his eye as a microscope and examine the work inch by inch. Unquestionably the work is as wonderful as it is unartistic; but, if all this labour is to produce no more effect, how much of it is thrown away. The time of day which the artist has chosen to paint is, pictorially, the most difficult to render and the least interesting to contemplate, while there are endless points of view in the Bay of Naples which present richer combinations than the one selected in the picture. The imitative landscape-painters commence by an elaboration of details which is carried carefully out inch by inch till the canvas is covered, and then the picture seems to be left for finished. Work of this kind, placed beside the landscapes of Turner or Cox, is not merely ineffective, but absolutely lifeless. Far better are Mr. Mason's "Return from Ploughing," which we have already noticed, and Mr. Lee's little landscape, "Outside the City—Storm approaching" (60). These works have a vein of true poetry in their composition; and we are at once attracted by them, and charmed more and more while we look at them, although they are really devoid of the imitative skill which distinguishes so many landscapes of repute in the gallery. More effective, too, are Mr. Anthony's works, badly hung as they are; for he always has a story to tell, and his imitation of nature is conducted with knowledge. Mr. Oakes has produced his finest picture in "The Poachers" (388)—a grand Welsh landscape, with a salmon river tumbling over the ledges of rocks, among which a pair of otters, indifferent to the game-laws, are engaged in the destruction of salmon. In this work Mr. Oakes has almost entirely emancipated himself from the bonds which a too liberal imitation of nature have hitherto imposed upon him, and has given us the true impression made upon his own mind by a very grand passage of natural scenery. The Linnells, father and son, have contributed some of the most excellent landscapes in the Exhibition. Perhaps the "Haymakers" (37), by J. Linnell, senior, might fairly be called the best landscape in the gallery. It is full of light and air—the most difficult of all appearances to represent. The full effect of this picture may best be noted by comparing it with its neighbour, "On the Clyde," wherein we feel the want of these qualities of atmospheric truth. "Banks and Braes," by W. Linnell, is a fine work, and leads us to think of the nature of art-teaching; for here we see the son producing work so like the father that it is difficult to see wherein the difference lies. It is possible to have too much teaching as well as too little; and we would rather have seen a more original view of nature. This picture gives us a view; but it is one that the painter has seen through his father's spectacles. Mr. V. Cole has a large landscape; but it is not up to his usually able work. "The Decline of Day," seen over a great extent of brake and heather, is not an easy thing to paint; and, unless every gradation of tint be truly rendered, the general effect, as in this instance, is likely to be unpleasant. Mr. G. Sant's picture of "The Bishopston Valley" (400) is not so good as his clever sketch in the late exhibition at the British Institution. Mr. G. Stanfield has a good representation of the "Amphitheatre at Verona" (496). Mr. Walton and Mr. MacCallum have each careful studies of sunrise—the former of an Eastern landscape under this effect, and the latter of an English one (366 and 505); but the sky in both cases fails to represent the true effect of the time. But for the crudity of the sky, Mr. Walton's landscape would be very striking. Mr. Leader has a good picture of "An English Churchyard" (316), which tells also with unusual effect in its place above the line. Mr. Moore's careful, but as yet imperfect landscape-painting should not be overlooked, as it contains promise of better things to come.

The portraits of the year are, on an average, equal to the subject-pictures and landscapes. Sir Watson Gordon (whose loss we have so recently had to regret) has five portraits in the present Exhibition. Grant has a very large group of the Duke and Duchess of Beaufort, of no great

interest in respect to treatment as a work of art: better is a life-sized head of the Hon. Mrs. J. Macdonald. Mr. Weigall exhibits a portrait of the Princess of Wales, and is fortunate enough to have as a foil a bad full-length picture of H.R.H. by a native Danish artist. His best portrait is one of the Dowager Lady Lyttleton; but we cannot help noting that he becomes more and more inclined to very slight, not to say sketchy, work, which, however well it may stand the test of a modern exhibition, will hardly bear the test of time. Mr. Weigall should beware of flatness, to which his present work, clever as it is, certainly tends. Mr. Knight has a capital head of Cabrera. Mr. Boxall's portrait of Gibson is a very conscientious work, although we see more of himself and less of Gibson than we should desire. This is perhaps a natural result of this painter's earnest work, into which there is always abundant evidence that he throws himself heart and soul. Mr. Wells has a good portrait of the Mayor of Newcastle—far better than the full-length picture of Mrs. Stewart Hodgson, the face of which looks somewhat ill drawn. Mr. H. W. Phillips has a good group of Captains Speke and Grant. Mr. Richmond is always a large contributor, and his heads are as good as usual. Mr. Sandys has but one portrait (546); but of this, which is altogether an exceptional work, and of great merit, we have no space to speak at present. We hope to do so in a future article on English portraiture, when we may also take occasion to return more particularly to some of the better portraits in the present Exhibition.

## ART NOTES.

ANOTHER attempt will be made in the House of Commons on Monday next to remove the National Gallery out of the very heart of the metropolis in Trafalgar Square, its fittest site, to the back of Burlington House, with an entrance between the Burlington Arcade and the Albany, opposite Saville Row and Old Burlington Street.

THE additions to the National Gallery last year, according to the report to Parliament, consist of "An Altar-piece" by Pesselino, for which £2100 was paid; "An Altar-piece" by Lanini, bought for £1200; "An Altar-piece" by Bramantino, for £127; "Christ's Agony in the Garden," by Bellini, for £630; "A Madonna" by Beltraffio, for £452; "Portrait of G. C. Longini" by A. Solario, for £636; and "Mousehold Heath, near Norwich," by J. Crome, for £420. To these must be added the twenty-two pictures presented by her Majesty in pursuance of the intentions of the late Prince Consort; a picture by Wright of Derby, presented by Mr. E. Tyrrell; a scene from "The Faery Queen" by Ursins, the bequest of Mr. Apsley Pellatt; and the portrait of Lewis, the actor, left by will, along with £10,000, by Sir Martin Arthur Shee.

THE Scandinavian Gallery in the Haymarket is opened for the exhibition of Danish, Swedish, and Norwegian pictures, some of which possess great merit.

MR. STEPHEN POYATZ DENNING, the water-colour painter and Curator of the Dulwich Gallery, died last week, aged seventy-two.

DANTAN the younger has received an order from Marshal Vaillant, the minister on behalf of the French government, to execute a bust of Meyerbeer, to be placed in the grand *salon* of the Conservatoire.

SHAKESPEARE costume has been carefully illustrated in a thin imperial octavo which has just appeared at Düsseldorf under the title of "Shakspeare Album: Sämmtliche Costümfiguren aus dem Shakspearefest veranstaltet am 23 April, 1864, von der Künstler-Gesellschaft, 'Malkasten,' in Düsseldorf." 64 subjects, each of the *carte de visite* size, on 16 leaves, photographed by the brothers Overbeck.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON, AND WOODS sold, at their rooms in King Street, St. James's, yesterday week, the collection of cabinet paintings the property of the late Earl of Clare. The sale also included some pictures belonging to the late Right Hon. Edward Ellice, and a collection of Italian and Spanish works which had been formed by Mr. G. A. Hoskins.—Lot 12. Ruysdael—An upright landscape, with a river rushing over broken ground, a group of fir-trees on the bank; exhibited 1842—£225. 10s. 14. Wynants—A small landscape, with a horseman and other figures by A. Van de Velde, on a road near a row of trees—£100. 16s. 15. Teniers—A group of five figures seated at a table playing cards, a female frying pancakes, and other figures in the background; from the collection of the Marquis of Ely; exhibited at the British Institution, 1838—£192. 12s.

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22. Weenix—A dead hare hanging to a tree; a group of flowers near—£378. 32. J. B. Greuze—A young girl caressing a spaniel—£1071. 33. J. Van Huysum—A group of roses, peonies, and pinks, in a terra-cotta jar, on a marble table; a bird's-nest, with eggs, near; from the collection of Sir C. Bagot; exhibited in the British Institution, 1834—£525. 34. W. Mieris—An old woman and a boy giving bread and fish to a beggar; exhibited 1842—£162. 15s. 35. Netscher—"La Tricoteuse," a female seated at a window, knitting; a basket of worsted on a table; from the collection of M. Lempereur and the Comte de Merle; exhibited at the British Institution, 1838—£409. 10s. 38. G. Dow—An astrologer holding a candle and leaning over a book, a globe, bottle, and hour-glass beside him; formerly in the collections of Hesse Cassel, M. Six, La Perrier, and Mr. Barchard—£703. 10s. 39. Murillo—A peasant holding a bottle and drinking from a glass, a wreath of vine on his head; from the collections of Prince Talleyrand and Lord Charles Townshend; exhibited at the British Institution, 1838—£1365. This was the last picture in the Earl of Clare's collection. The total amount realized was £6772. 17s.—In the other portion of the sale, were the following lots:—86. Teniers—"The Enchantress quitting the Infernal Regions;" Dr. Chauncey's, Sir Joshua Reynolds's, and the late Mr. S. Rogers's collections—£126. 108. L. Backhuysen—"The Prince of Orange's Yacht off Amsterdam," from the collection of M. Braamcamp; this picture was sold last year during the picture mania for 250 guineas, but now only for £100. 115. Velasquez—Four figures playing the Game of Monti—£210. 130. Van der Capella—A grand river-scene, with a state barge, and numerous boats and figures—£535. 10s. 131. Van der Capella—A view near the mouth of a Dutch river, with vessels, boats, and figures, a church in the distance—£168. 132. W. Van de Velde—"A Calm," with a man-of-war and boats at anchor—£210. 133. W. Van de Velde—A grand sea piece, with numerous fishing-boats and a yacht at anchor in a calm—£249.

## MUSIC.

### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

THE old problem of the London musical world—the question whether the town could support two Italian Operas—seems to have been satisfactorily solved by the proceedings of the last two seasons. Without assuming to know anything of the financial mysteries of either house, we may at least assume that four and five performances a-week at each place must mean success. If the Haymarket opera-house has been noticed in these columns at less length than its Covent-Garden rival, it is only because the novelties in the way of first appearances, revivals, and new casts have been fewer in number—the fact being, apparently, that the four or five leading members of Mr. Mapleson's company form a corps of singers whose powers of attracting the public is only limited by their amount of physical endurance. While singers like Mdle. Titiens, Signor Giuglini, Madame Trebelli, and Mr. Santley can be got to fill the leading parts of the principal operas, there is no need for a manager or his supporters to speculate upon *débütants* (especially now that good singers are so hard to find), except from the simple consideration that the public want to hear more singing per week than any one set of human throats can furnish. The representations of "Faust," "Lucrezia," "The Huguenots," "Norma," and other well-established operas have been uniformly excellent, and even brilliant; but the voices of both Mdle. Titiens and Signor Giuglini are perceptibly beginning to suffer from the incessant work thrown upon them—so that Mr. Mapleson has had more than one reason for seeking reinforcements. The additions to the ranks of his lady-vocalists have not been all successes. Mdle. Sinico, who appeared as the *Traviata*, is a singer of too limited power and accomplishment to be of much use in such a theatre, and Mdle. Liebhart is at the best only a passable representative of secondary characters. Signor Gardoni, on the other hand, on returning to the scene of his earliest successes, has proved a most valuable recruit, not only singing with his old irreproachable purity of style and beauty of voice, but showing an amount of vigour in his assumptions of important parts which was scarcely expected of him. The latest *début*, however, on these boards has been one of real interest, and an unequivocal success. Mdle. Harriers Wippenn, who has now appeared three times as *Alice* in "Robert le Diable," is one of the stars of

the Berlin opera-house. She is German, apparently, by birth, but her vocal training shows the mettle of a better pasture than that of the average of German sopranis. Though her execution cannot be called finished, her style is pure and her voice is magnificent. It is a clear, ringing soprano, of ample volume and good compass—fresh, sonorous, and round-toned. She delivers her phrases with a freedom and decision which set the listener at his ease, and at once indicate the right of the singer to "lead" in a grand opera. From the two great vices of the hour—the spasmodic violence which strips so many rich German voices of their charm, and the *tremolo*, which at one time threatened to make all singing unendurable—her performance is happily free. In the part of *Alice*, which is the best character in the opera, and altogether one of the most beautiful conceptions ever illustrated by music, she shows that she can act with spirit and expression. Her singing of the exquisite music which Meyerbeer has put in the mouth of *Robert's* guardian-angel quite wins the sympathy of the audience. "Quando lasciai" will always be, no doubt, the most popular song of the piece; but *Alice's* music in the last act soars into a higher region of poetry; and this Mdle. Wippenn sings nobly. Of the general performance of the piece it is impossible to speak so decidedly. The cast is not, on the whole, a strong one. Signor Gardoni is, indeed, a more vigorous *Robert* than one might have expected; but Signor Fricca is a lamentably poor *Bertram*, and Mdle. Liebhart a far from contenting *Isabella*. Signor Fricca's voice is essentially unmusical: its ponderous dulness is not compensated by any depth of tone, and it sometimes grates on the ear, especially in concerted pieces, with a harshness which quite spoils the effect of the vocal *ensemble*. Besides this, his singing is unsteady and inarticulate. Mdle. Liebhart's volubility and cleverness, which are both remarkable, cannot disguise the fact that she is no singer. She phrases in the fitful, jerky fashion which reveals the entire absence of a good method, and her manner is almost equally displeasing. Whether she sings as the princess in "Robert" or as the queen in the "Huguenots," she adopts equally the pert air of a *soubrette*, which, after a time, becomes exceedingly wearisome. But the casting of one of Meyerbeer's master-works is about the greatest strain to which the resources of a company can be put. It is, therefore, not the fault of managers if a piece like "Robert" has to be listened to subject to drawbacks such as we have noted. If the art of singing has declined, no money premiums, however extravagant, will call good artists into existence. Nor will protesting against bad singing of itself cure the deficiency. But it is well that we should look in the face the fact that the average vocal art found on our opera-boards in the present day has definitely and demonstrably fallen below the standard of twenty years ago. The more clearly this fact, unpleasant as it is, is understood, the more chance will there be of the public asking itself what has caused the deterioration, and of thus being stimulated to look out for and encourage the methods and the style which produced schools of great singers in a former generation. The improvements in our orchestras and in the training of our choruses are, indeed, some set off against the decay of the vocal art. Such singing as that of Signor Arditi's chorus was certainly not to be heard in what we are forced to call the great days of Italian opera. The last act of "Robert" is among the grandest achievements of Meyerbeer's genius, and the thrilling beauty of the church-music is one of its chief features. This is now done with splendid effect at Her Majesty's. The tones of the new organ which has been added this season are delightfully rich and mellow, and the choral *ensemble* is altogether magnificent.

The performance of the "Huguenots" at this house deserves mention, if only for the sake of alluding to Mr. Santley's *Nevers*. Small as the part is, it suffices to make felt the charm of his splendid declamation. Mdle. Titiens's *Valentine* is as inspiring, as pathetic, as ever; and Signor Giuglini's singing is still too beautiful to allow us to dwell much on the irredeemable badness of his acting. Mdle. Liebhart, as the queen, shows the same faults here as in "Robert;" but the performance, notwithstanding this and sundry other smaller deficiencies, is still well worth hearing. Such a *Valentine* alone would be sufficient justification for spending even a bright June evening in the atmosphere of an opera-house.

"Fidelio," which had been announced for Tuesday, was put off till Thursday night. On the production of this much-desired and grand opera we must therefore report next week.

### MR. BENEDICT'S AND OTHER CONCERTS.

A POLITE philosopher once thanked a lady who had been singing to a party for an hour by saying, "Madam, you have wasted our time most charmingly!" In some such fashion Mr. Benedict is entitled to be complimented for the skill displayed in the arrangement of his monster concert. We adhere to our general principle that a monster concert is an absurdity; but Mr. Benedict has found a way of making the absurdity pleasant, and not only pleasant, but, to a certain extent, interesting. His cantata "Richard Cœur-de-Lion" is a piece which certainly deserves an occasional hearing. It was done on Monday last with the best possible array of soloists—Mesdames Parepa and Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley; and it was followed by three extracts from the composer's new operetta, "The Brides of Song," which promises to be a pleasant little work. The three pieces were—a bass song for Mr. Santley, "Boot and Saddle;" a very elegant romance for soprano, "My Home in Cloudland" (Mdle. Enequist); and a pretty trio (S. T. B.), "My heart is beating." A Concertant Duet for two Violins, by Spohr, played by MM. Joachim and Wieniawski, excited much interest. It is a piece of singular form, but very beautiful. It consists of two movements—a melodious *andante* with variations, and a vigorous *finale* on a theme which is announced in the fugal manner and afterwards treated à l'*Ecosaise*. In the hands of two such artists, as need hardly be said, this was a performance no less charming than interesting. Our anxiety to know something of M. Gounod's new opera was duly considered in the introduction of the pretty little song from "Mireille," "Voici la saison mignonne," a quaint ditty which Madame Trebelli sang with neatness and spirit. The rest of this five-hour concert was made up of a string of the most telling and popular *morceaux*, sung or played by the favourites of the day, and artfully arranged so as to secure a minimum of tedium. Mdle. Carlotta Patti exhibited a new piece of gymnastics—"The Carnival of Venice," to wit, transcribed from Paganini for the human larynx. The entertainment, besides being the most brilliant concert, was also about the most brilliant bonnet-show of the season, and must have furnished hundreds of young ladies from the country with quadrille small-talk about operatic celebrities, &c., sufficient to last through the winter.

The principal serial concerts are approaching their respective terminations. Dr. Wylde's last new Philharmonic on Wednesday introduced Herr Lauterbach, the violinist, in that splendid work, Spohr's Dramatic Concerto. Great as is this gentleman's German reputation, we fail to see in his performances evidence of anything more than the average skill of a cultivated player. The Symphony was Beethoven's, in C minor. This concert closed a series as good as any we can recollect among its predecessors. Dr. Wylde's concerts are and should be very welcome to lovers of the greatest orchestral music. May they long prosper, as they have been prospering, to all appearance, this season!

Yet another *virtuoso* on the piano appeared at the Musical Union on Tuesday—M. Leschetizka, from St. Petersburg. He played in the (now popular) Pianoforte Quintett of Schumann, and showed himself to be, without any doubt, a player of the first force. Some little pieces of his own which he played at the finish, and which testified not only to immense mechanical skill, but to the possession of a graceful fancy as a composer, made a considerable impression on the audience. Herr Joachim led on the violin, and enchanted the audience by his playing of Ernst's "Elegy." Next Tuesday will be the "Director's" (and last?) *Matinée*, when the Septuor of Hummel and Beethoven, and other good things, will be performed.

MADAME EUGENE OSWALD, a new aspirant to the honour of a classical pianist, gave a concert at Collard's rooms yesterday week. Her programme contained typical specimens of a variety of schools—Beethoven, Mozart, Hummel, Chopin, Mendelssohn, and Henselt—and her intelligent, steady playing in all of these testified to a wide range of acquirement, and to an amount of careful study which, a few years ago, would have been sufficient to have placed so young a player in the front rank of pianists. Now, however, though signal genius is as rare as ever, the average standard of accomplishment is very high, and it is only the possession of exceptional powers that can distinguish a performer from the crowd of eager competitors which throng this, more than perhaps any other, path of the artistic career.

# THE READER.

25 JUNE, 1864.

Madame Oswald is at present in the crowd, but to have even a chance of the higher distinction is no slight honour; and to this the simplicity and thoroughness of her playing, as evidenced in her performance of the highest class of chamber-music, fairly entitle her. We were glad to hear, by-the-way, at this concert a composition of Mozart's which has been strangely neglected. This is a delightful little trio (in E flat) for piano, clarinet, and viola—a piece which, though slighter in form, may be compared for perfect loveliness of melody with the immortal Clarinet Quintett. It was played some years back at the Musical Union, since which time, so far as memory serves, it has not been heard in a London concert-room. Perhaps Mr. Lazarus and Mr. Chappell have noted it among the prospective good things of the Monday Concerts. Madame Oswald was assisted in this and other concerted pieces by Mr. Webb, Mr. Maycock, M. Paque, and Mr. Severn. R. B. L.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

THE next Monday Popular Concert is to be for the benefit of Mr. Sims Reeves, who will sing then, among other things, the garden solo from "Faust" to the obligato accompaniment of Herr Joachim's violin. The same evening will be an attractive one at the "Old Philharmonic," where Professor Bennett's new orchestral work—not, as was hoped, a symphony, but a piece in the symphonic-overture form—will be produced for the first time, and where Herr Joachim will introduce to an English audience a concerto of his own composition.

THE Society of British Musicians offered prizes some time ago for the best stringed quintetts. The adjudication has been made, and the prize quintetts will be played on Monday afternoon, at 3 p.m., at Messrs. Collard's rooms. Admission on presentation of card.

THE Musical Society holds its *Soirée* this year in St. James's Hall; the last gathering of the kind was in the Hanover Square Rooms, which were far too crowded for comfort.

M. DEICHMANN promises a sonata of his own composition, for pianoforte and violin, as a part of the programme of his concert on Wednesday next.

A FESTIVAL-GATHERING of parochial choirs took place at Ely on the 7th inst., which is worth noticing as one of the best assemblies of the kind which has yet been held. The voices were numbered at 1400; and the effect of the chanting is described as having been very fine. The building was thronged from end to end. In such meetings as these our grand old cathedrals—and Ely is one of the grandest—are put to a noble use.

AMONG the Shakespearian music produced à propos of the Tercentenary was a male-voiced ode, in the cantata form, by Mr. Alfred Gilbert, which was sung with success by the Polyhymnian Choir. It is being published, we observe, by Messrs. Addison.

MDLLE. A. PATTI is engaged, it is said, to sing in August at concerts in Boulogne and Havre at a fee of £140 for each concert.

THE Théâtre Lyrique, at which a new opera of Count Gabielli's, "Fanchette," is in active preparation, has ordered an operetta from a young, hitherto unknown composer—Germain of Carcassonne. Should this be acceptable, a larger work by the same composer, "Jeanne d'Arc," now under consideration at the same theatre, will be produced.

MOSENTHAL'S "Deborah" having proved so successful (as "Leah") on English soil, this author's other drama, "Sonnwendhof," has been taken in hand as a libretto by an English composer—Mr. Macfarren.

F. DAVID, dissatisfied, it appears, with his new opera, "La Captive," at the last moment has retracted it entirely after the rehearsal, and is working now at another opera, "Tout est Bien qui Finit Bien"—text after Shakespeare's "All's Well that Ends Well," written by Leuven, Carré, and Hadot.

A "MEYERBEER Foundation" is about to be formed by the different stages. They would each engage to give one annual benefit for it, the proceeds of which would be devoted to the aid of young composers.

AMONG the new operas of the Baden season are Gustave Hecquet's "De par le Roi" and "La Fleur de Lotus," by Prosper Pascal.

A THEMATIC Catalogue of Weber's works has been undertaken by F. W. Jahns, the music-publisher of Berlin. Few things are more interesting, and even precious, to lovers of music than good catalogues of this kind. We hope, therefore, that

all whom it may concern may comply with the request of the following notice, which is published in some of the foreign papers:—"Occupé en ce moment à dresser un catalogue chronologique et thématique de toutes les œuvres musicales de Ch. M. de Weber, avec notes et explications, dans le genre du travail de M. de Köchel sur Mozart, je prie les personnes qui posséderaient des manuscrits originaux de ses œuvres, ou de toute autre pièce écrite de sa main, de vouloir bien—pour me faciliter l'exécution de ce catalogue—me les communiquer pour en prendre connaissance; ne fût-ce que le plus petit fragment d'une composition, d'une lettre ou de toute autre note y ayant trait. Les personnes qui me les confieraient peuvent être assurées que l'on aura le plus grand soin de ces pièces, et qu'on s'empressera de les renvoyer immédiatement, même sous plis chargés, si elles le désirent. Adresser les envois soit directement à moi, soit à M. Espagne, conservateur à la division musicale de la Bibliothèque royale, à Berlin.—F. W. JAHNS, directeur de musique, à Berlin, Kransenstrasse, no. 62."

THE *Revue et Gazette Musicale* says: "Among the papers of a recently-deceased inhabitant of Stargard in Pomerania have been discovered twenty-three manuscripts of Mozart. Among them is a sort of comedy called 'Apollo and Hyacinth,' set to music by W. Mozart, May 13, 1766; a symphony for two violins, two violoncellos, two hautbois, two horns, and three basses, by Mozart, Vienna and Olmutz, 1767; a concerto for piano and orchestra, dedicated to the Emperor Leopold, Vienna, 1784; and several symphonies composed at Salzburg."

## MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

JUNE 27th to JULY 2nd.

MONDAY.—Mr. Chatterton's Harp Recital, St. James's Hall, 3 p.m.

Mr. J. Ascher's Matinée, Hanover Square Rooms, 3 p.m.

Miss Rose Hersee's Matinée, Collard's Rooms.

TUESDAY.—Musical Union Director's Matinée, St. James's Hall, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY.—Herr Deichmann's Concert, Willis's Rooms, 3 p.m.

Mr. John Thomas's Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

Mr. Lindsay Sloper's Second Pianoforte Performance, St. James's Hall, 24 p.m.

Miss Van Noorden's Concert, Hanover Square Rooms, 3 p.m.

THURSDAY.—Signor Regondi's Concert, Hanover Square Rooms, 3 p.m.

Pianoforte Quartett Association, Collard's Rooms, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY.—Mr. Hallé's Eighth Pianoforte Recital, St. James's Hall, 3 p.m.

Mr. Desmond Ryan's Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Opera Concert, 3 p.m.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN.—To-night, "La Figlia;" Monday, "Faust;" Tuesday, "La Traviata."

HER MAJESTY'S.—To-night, "Fidelio;" Tuesday, "Faust."

## THE DRAMA.

"MASANIELLO" AT THE OLYMPIC; "MRS. ROSELEAF OUT OF TOWN," &c.

THE revival of the late R. B. Brough's capital travesty of "Masaniello," with the substitution of Miss Raynham for Mr. F. Robson, is hardly intelligible. If it is intended to demonstrate the greatness of Mr. F. Robson's acting by force of contrast with that of Miss Raynham, the test was wholly unneeded and, at the same time, not a little cruel to the lady, who—talented as she is—is in no way qualified to bear comparison with one of the most remarkable actors of modern times in one of his most remarkable impersonations. The present revival, in fact, is a complete mystification—an elaborately-prepared failure, the occult motives of which are altogether beyond our guessing powers. Of the acting of the principal part we shall, in charity, say as little as possible. Without comparing it with that of Robson, it seems to us to be more feeble than any we have seen on the burlesque stage for a very long time. The rest of the cast did full justice to their parts. Miss Hughes sustained her original character of *Elvira*, and sang better than ever, though we should have preferred the retention of the author's parody of "Lord Lovel" to the interpolation of "Il Bacio," brilliantly as she sings it. *Alphonso*, the elegant "Count of Somewhere," and troubler of the susceptible heart of *Fenella*, *Masaniello's* dumb sister, is gracefully played by Miss Foote, whose performance of *May Edwards* in the "Ticket-of-Leave Man" has greatly helped to achieve the enormous, but well-won success of that piece. Miss Florence Haydon also plays gracefully as *Lorenzo*, the Count's friend and confidant. *Fenella* is played by a lady delighting in the strange Christian name of Tissy. Miss Tissy Gunniss is tolerably well known as a dancer, and

now appears to advantage as a pantomimist: supple, graceful, and intelligent, she renders the character of the betrayed dumb girl with point and feeling. Mr. R. Souter replaces poor G. Cooke as *Selva*, the "myrmidon of a despotic government," and gives a vigorous portrait of a policeman—the typical policeman—with unlimited notions of his own importance, tempered with area proclivities. The fatal want of effectiveness in the performance of the principal character rendered the general acting of the piece tame and unimpressive, however, and leaves us to wonder why so much taste and money should have been expended in the production of such an eminently unsatisfactory result.

"Mrs. Roseleaf's Little Evening Party," after having been given about three hundred times at the Gallery of Illustration, now gives place to a new "descriptive story" by Mr. John Parry, entitled "The Sea-Side; or, Mrs. Roseleaf Out of Town," which we shall not be surprised to find as popular as its predecessor. Mr. John Parry stands, and has always stood, alone in giving this peculiar kind of entertainment, in which he displays, beyond his great musical powers, extraordinary faculties of characterization and mimicry. His only rival, as far as we know, is Levassor; but, save in the equal perfection of their talent, there is hardly any resemblance between them; and the English artist—from the accidental difference of the manners which the two have studied in their own countries—always exhibits a refined delicacy of expression which is not by any means characteristic of the great French buffo. With the course of time the powers which were applauded as exquisite twenty years or more ago have ripened; and we are not saying too much when we say that these two "Roseleaf" entertainments are, so far, the greatest triumphs of his long career. All the qualities of close observation and perfect expression which marked the previous entertainment are conspicuously observable in the present, which is, perhaps, a shade more laughable, on account of the new characters introduced. For the most part, the characters introduced in the "Little Party" reappear at the sea-side; Mrs. Roseleaf on the esplanade proving to be as brimful of pretty minauderies as Mrs. Roseleaf doing the honours of her drawing-room. Miss Gushing-ton, too, is more gushing, and more alive to the art of turning the conversation on to the subject of matrimony—especially whenever she can get within earshot of Mr. Yeanay—than ever; but how she coquets with that small-brained young gentleman while he and she are out in a boat, and a peal of marriage-bells are ringing on the shore, only Mr. John Parry himself can tell. Poor Mr. Yeanay's sensations while the boat is under sail are exquisitely realized; and his feeble admission that the motion always makes him feel a "little stupid" is the most delicate suggestion of *mal de mer* we ever remember to have heard. Of the new characters the most striking impersonation is that of an Italian organ-man with a monkey, the characteristics of both man and monkey being brought out with surprising distinctness. Another admirable point is the performance of the "Town Band," who execute a waltz in a style that is recognised by all familiar with the original performance—band, conductor, audience, and interrupting influences all being rendered by Mr. John Parry. Perfection in its way, also, is the little episode of Miss Florence Roseleaf, five and a half years of age, in the hands of Mrs. Ducker, an old bathing-woman; so also is the young lady's departure for a ride in a goat-chaise, Mrs. Roseleaf's doting ejaculations and pettings being all delightfully silly, real, and void of exaggeration in the rendering. We must not forget the *Foreign Artist*, the pale Italian with the guitar and the thin tenor voice, well-remembered of watering-places, who sings a doleful song something about *La bella Italia*, accompanying himself upon his guitar, and making irregular plunges at an aggravating dog who insists upon adding a chorus of barkings; nor the acrobat who, while balancing one of his companions on a tall pole, has to look out for passing vehicles: both are perfectly drawn. It is almost needless to speak of the musical accompaniments, Mr. John Parry's pianoforte playing being famous for its highly artistic quality. We will only say that we have never heard him play more captivatingly than in "Mrs. Roseleaf at the Sea-side."

A NEW extravaganza on the subject of "Faust and Marguerite," by Mr. F. C. Burnand, is in preparation at the St. James's. Mr. Charles Mathews is to play *Mephistopheles*, Mrs. Charles Mathews *Marguerite*, and Mr. Clarke *Martha*. The piece is to be called "An Immorality."

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